

Hafa Adai!

Yamamoto given 24 hours to settle custodial fees. **PAGE 2**  
Hocog, Cing eyed as CHCC board members. **PAGE 2**

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## Armed man robs Dandan store



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

This frame grab from a surveillance camera shows an armed robbery at LZ Market in Dandan on Monday night. The suspect pointed a handgun at the store owner, demanded money, and sprayed pepper mace on the victim. The suspect managed to run off with \$800 cash. The robbery lasted less than a minute.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
REPORTER  
FERDIE\_DELATORRE@SAIPANTRIBUNE.COM

A masked man who was carrying a handgun sprayed pepper mace on a store owner during an armed robbery at LZ Market along Dandan Road on Monday night.

The masked robber ran off with \$800 in cash and got into a get-away car being driven by

another person.

The store's surveillance camera captured the entire incident.

» **Robber points gun, sprays store owner with pepper mace**

Saipan Tribune learned that as soon as customers left the store, the masked man came inside, pointed a handgun at the male owner who was at the cashier's counter, and demanded money.

**See MAN on Page 4**

## Castro falls prey to burglars anew

Councilor Luis John "L.J." Castro, who is currently the acting mayor for the Northern Islands, fell prey to burglars anew.

Castro's house in Fina-sisu was burglarized either on Sunday or Monday.

"It's sad and frustrating," Castro said in a phone inter-

view yesterday.

Stolen was a flatscreen TV worth \$300 that had just replaced the one stolen by

**See CASTRO on Page 4**

## Arrivals up 38 pct. in January

Visitor arrivals to the Marianas jumped 38 percent in January 2017 compared to January 2016, according to the latest data from the Marianas Visitors Authority.

MVA data shows that arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota totaled 63,346 in January 2017, compared to 46,011 visitors received in January 2016. This is the third best January arrivals in Marianas history. The record for January was set in fiscal year 1997 with 66,935 arrivals that month.

Arrivals from Korea nearly doubled for the

**See ARRIVALS on Page 4**

## ROTA IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Members of the 20th CNMI Legislature on Capitol Hill listen to National Parks Service representatives Jim Richardson, Anna Tamura, and Jean Boscacci in yesterday's presentation on a special resources study that will be conducted for Rota. The study will look at the inclusion of Rota in the National Park System.

JON PEREZ

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## INSIDE



### NATION

Thousands of demonstrators turn out across the U.S. to challenge Donald Trump.

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### ASIA

The death toll has risen to 15 from a bus crash in the Philippines.

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### LIFE & STYLE

Milo Yiannopoulos has been disinvented to the Conservative Political Action Conference.

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## Local

## Yamamoto given 24 hours to settle custodial fees

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The clock is ticking for Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto, who has been given 24 hours to settle his share of \$130,406 in custodial fees for cargo vessel M/V *Luta*.

In a hearing yesterday, the federal court directed Yamamoto to settle his outstanding balance of \$130,406 with the National Maritime Services Inc. If no settlement is reached, the court will proceed with the order to show-cause hearing today, Wednesday, at 8am.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge David O. Carter arrived at the decision after discussions with Yamamoto's counsel, George Lloyd Hasselback, NMS counsel Sean Frink, and counsels for the intervenors in Yamamoto's lawsuit.

Yamamoto himself did not personally appear as ordered.

Frink told the court that Yamamoto did not pay but he and Hasselback said that negotiations are taking place over a possible settlement.

Carter said a 24-hour settlement discussion is reasonable.

If it fails, a show-cause hearing will be held today, during which Yamamoto was ordered to personally appear.

The hearing will not go through, however, if the court is presented with an executed written agreement settling all of NMS' claims against Yamamoto for custodial fees.

Failing that and failing to appear at the hearing could result in Yamamoto being arrested. The court may also impose other sanctions.

"If [a] settlement is reached, Yamamoto does not need to come to the court," the judge said.

In an interview after the hearing, Hasselback said they're working on settling the remaining claims between Yamamoto and NMS.

"And I think we will be able to get everything worked out by tomorrow morning," Hasselback said.

Hasselback said that what has been requested by the creditors/intervenors is that the vessel be released.

Hasselback pointed out that Yamamoto's arrest warrant for the vessel was recently vacated by the court.

"I anticipate that the next step will be probably the release of the vessel," the lawyer said.

Hasselback declined to comment about Yamamoto's ongoing case against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and Luta Mermaid LLC and its owners.

"You could check the record out. Mr. Yamamoto does have several claims pending. That will continue in the normal course of business," he said.

William Fitzgerald, the lawyer for Luta Mermaid and its members, said he has no comment until today, Wednesday.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Tydingco-Gatewood recently ordered the vessel to be released, but made the order contingent on the parties paying NMS' custodial fees in full.

Tydingco-Gatewood also issued an order to show cause two weeks ago against Yamamoto for failing to pay his outstanding balance of \$130,406 in custodial fees no later than Feb. 14, 2017. Yamamoto had already initially paid \$30,000 in custodial fees.

Tydingco-Gatewood or-

dered Yamamoto to appear in court yesterday, Tuesday, and explain why he should not be held in contempt for resisting the court's order for him to pay his share of custodial fees.

The vessel's crew, Long Consulting, and Norton Lilly have complied with the court's order by paying for custodial fees in the total amount of \$28,916.

Tydingco-Gatewood determined that Yamamoto's relationship with Abelina T. Mendiola and her family dem-

onstrates he was a joint venturer with them in M/V *Luta*.

Abelina T. Mendiola is president of Luta Mermaid, and Luta Mermaid's members are Deron T. Mendiola, and Fidel S. Mendiola III.

Yamamoto is suing Hocog and the owner/operators of M/V *Luta* for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel. After Yamamoto filed the lawsuit last Oct. 25, the U.S. Marshal Service seized the ship. NMS was then appointed as custodian of the vessel.

## Hocog, Cing eyed as CHCC board members

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has nominated two persons to be on the new Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board of trustees.

In a message to the Senate last week, Torres nominated Dr. Larry B. Hocog as one of three representatives for Saipan and former senator William Cing as representative of Tinian.

Torres gets to nominate five persons in all to the CHCC board.

Hocog is a medical doctor at TakeCare/FHP. Cing serves as the Tinian Health Center director.

CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña declined to comment on the nominees.

PL 19-78 changed the CHCC board from an advisory role to a governing one. Its passage grants the CHCC board authority to control the

corporation's daily operations, functions, and activities.

Although the governor or PL 19-78 did not set a specific timeline for the organization of the CHCC board, PL 19-78 did mention that six months after the formation of the board the CEO and the chief financial officer of CHCC would have to start reporting to the board.

PL 19-78 has garnered negative reactions from employees of CHCC and some even

threatened to leave the hospital. An employee, one that has been with CHCC even before it became a corporation, referred to the times back then as the "dark ages" of his medical career.

The nominations must be acted upon by the Senate through a public hearing before being officially appointed to the CHCC board. The date and specifics of the public hearing have yet to be announced.



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# Legislature remembers Aldan as a champion of Pagan

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Members of the 20th CNMI Legislature remember the late Northern Islands mayor Jerome Kaipat Aldan as a champion of issues that affect the Northern Islands, including

the volcanic island of Pagan.

Aldan collapsed from a suspected heart attack early Saturday morning and was pronounced dead by doctors at the Commonwealth Health Center, where he was rushed.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council

chair Luis John Castro is the current acting mayor of the Northern Islands, pending the confirmation and swearing in of Vicente Cruz Santos Jr., who was second to Aldan in the 2015 general election.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) said the CNMI lost a very courageous and vibrant young leader in Aldan. "He was a humble and respectful leader. I [found] him very dynamic and refreshing."

"He [was] a leader that [was] true to his people's causes and thoughts. He voiced out the concerns and position of the Northern Islands community, especially the military proposals. The entire Senate is saddened by his sudden passing."

Palacios was shocked upon getting word that Aldan had died. "I was shocked when I woke up and was informed he died last Saturday. He was a real advocate in regards to the concerns of the Northern Islands community."

"He respected the military and listened to their proposals but also gave his position on behalf of the people of the Northern Islands," Palacios added.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) said that Aldan was a

great son of the CNMI. "He [was] a leader that's very vocal and always fought for 'Gani' [Pagan's other name]. We give our condolences to the family and we join them in their time of grief."

"Mayor Aldan [was] very active in the community and in making known the issues of Pagan. I previously worked with him in

putting up some policies for the Northern Islands. We are hoping the next mayor would be as active and strong as he was," Igisomar added. Sen. Justo S. Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) also worked with the late mayor on some issues regarding the Northern Islands in the last Legislature. He even attended two of Aldan's public hearings. "We really respect Mayor Aldan for he put the people of the Northern Islands and their concerns first. He [was] an advocate of the home-

stead program and opposed the proposed bombing activities by the military."

"Hopefully, his successor would continue to fight for the issues and legacy that he started. We should respect the job he has done, carry on the wishes of the people of the Northern Islands, and continue the fight for the benefit of their



Aldan

people and that is to prevent the military from destroying Pagan," Quitugua added.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said he too talked with Aldan about preventing Pagan's destruction. "Mayor Aldan's passing is a tremendous loss for the entire CNMI. We lost a really strong champion and defender of our people and our land."

"We have to move on from this but we are hoping that his successor would

continue the work that he started, his legacy of continuing to fight to prevent Pagan's destruction."

Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) also has kind words for Aldan. "It was really a shocking news for the entire community. We all know Mayor Aldan stood up for Pagan and the residents of the Northern Islands. He had a vision of developing Pagan so people could move back there."

Minority leader Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) said the CNMI would dearly miss Aldan. "We previously worked together under his father, the late Toby Aldan, before he became mayor of the Northern Islands."

"We are saddened that he would no longer be with us and at such a young age. He did not see some of his goals and development for the Northern Islands achieved, especially for his constituents."

## NMI flags at half-staff

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has directed all offices and instrumentalities of the Commonwealth government to lower all U.S. and CNMI flags to half-staff in honor of the late Northern Islands mayor Jerome Kaipat Aldan.

Aldan passed away last Saturday.

In a proclamation he released on Monday, Torres said that all flags in the CNMI should remain at half-staff until Aldan's interment.

The 43-year-old Aldan was an advocate for the resettlement of Pagan Island in the Northern Islands. All of its people were evacuated back in 1981 due to active volcanic eruptions. Aldan also advocated against

the U.S. military's plan to use Pagan as a live-fire training site, stating in previous interviews that the live-fire training would ruin the island, rendering any attempts to resettle useless.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council member Antonia Tudela told *Saipan Tribune* that she is extremely saddened by the sudden passing of the mayor.

"I know that Mayor Aldan was really working hard to help the people from the Northern Islands," said Tudela. "He was doing really good with the home-stead program [on Pagan] and the agriculture on the island."

Tudela confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that the late mayor will have a state funeral. Details are still being worked on.

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## Legislators mixed about including Rota in NPS system

By JON PEREZ

jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI lawmakers have mixed views about a special resources study to be conducted about declaring Rota a national park.

Members of the National Park Service—led by NPS Pacific West regional office representatives Jean Boscacci and Anna Tamura, and American Memorial Park superintendent Jim Richardson—presented to members of the 20th Legislature on how a national park is made.

Senate vice president Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota), chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation, and members Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) and Sen. Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) were at the forefront in asking clarifications about the presentation.

Mesngon requests constitu-

ents on Rota to attend today's public hearing.

"I would like to inform our people on Rota to come out and express their concerns about this national park issue. We're the ones who would be affected here and it is important to voice out our concerns."

One of those concerns is the scarcity of land on Rota. "The government should no longer allot additional public lands because of its scarcity. It would become scarce if a national park is established on public land."

Manglona said he is thankful for NPS' job in trying to complete the study of Rota's unique natural and cultural resources. "I commend you for conducting this study with strong interest of getting the public's input. I look forward to a positive recommendation."

The Mochong Latte Site,

Chugai Pictograph Cave, Bird Sanctuary, and Alaguan Bay Ancient Village prehistoric sites include unique architectural features known in ancient Chamorro culture.

"Our main concern is to be able to put in place flexibility for fishing, hunting, farming, other cultural practices and local land use," said Manglona.

Santos said she supports a proposed national park on Rota if people favor it. "[NPS] should take into consideration comments made by the [Rota] delegation such as ensuring our medicinal plants, other natural resources, and habitats are not destroyed or restricted from our people."

She added that compensation should be given if private landowners would be affected by the designation. "And since [NPS] is conducting a feasibility study for this project,

it is only fitting that the NPS should also conduct an economic impact."

"Revenues that could be generated from the park, for instance tourism, vendors, or commercial business. NPS should consider local jobs or training opportunities for our people."

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) wants to know how the designation would benefit the people of Rota and the entire CNMI. "We want to know what the people of Rota think first. Our overall concern is to what benefit these designation would be."

"The marine monument has resulted in zero benefit for the CNMI," he added.

Demapan said while it is nice to see NPS representatives doing a study before making a decision, Congress should also have a separate report about the other islands. Congress designates a national park through an act.

"We would love to see Congress have a resource study before military activities in Pagan and Tinian. We just have some concerns on [NPS] designating various parts of the island. What's going to become of it for Rota and its people?"

He added there are federal regulations that could apply to the mainland but not in the CNMI. "We come from small and fragile community. Sometimes what's good in the U.S. is not good for us. Some processes focus more on the welfare of animals and plants, rather than the people."

Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) said an area of historic significance or rich in culture are some of the criteria

in designating national parks. "It could be significant to the community. What [NPS] mentioned is the former Rota Legislative Delegation requested [Delegate] Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan to have areas on Rota designated as a national park."

"I know there's a growing concern from Rota residents right now about some of the regulations. There might be stricter regulations that would affect their ability to farm, hunt, subsistence living, or even doing construction projects, whether small or large scale."

He added discussion on the issue should be continuous due to the scarcity of land. "Just like [Mesngon] said earlier, there are a lot of issues that needs to be discussed and studied thoroughly."

Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said NPS had been assisting in the preservation and protection of the CNMI's cultural and historical sites through funds given to the Historic Preservation Office.

"Rota is a unique place in the CNMI. Mochon is a whole village of latte sites. What about the ones situated throughout the islands and spread out?"

### Designating a national park

Boscacci said they are here just to evaluate the area and study Rota's natural resources. "It is still up to [the United States] Congress in designat-

ing a national park. We're just going to share how a national park is designated through a special resources study."

It usually takes the study two to three years before a national park is designated. "We collect background information and conduct multiple interviews with professionals and regular people."

Richardson said there are many things on Rota that qualify for a national park. "Rota is largely intact and suffered no damage during World War II. It also holds special resources that are not found in any other places in the CNMI."

Congress establishes a national park through an act based on the study made by NPS. The president would confirm the action by signing the bill into law. The Antiquities Act is an exemption since the president has the power to designate national parks or monuments through an executive order.

The criteria used in designating national parks include areas that are an example of a particular type of resource, possesses exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the natural or cultural themes of the nation's heritage, superlative opportunities for recreation, for public use and enjoyment, or for scientific study, retains a high degree of integrity as a true, accurate, and relatively unspoiled example of the resource.

### DRILL MEET

The Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Battalion performs in the unarmed exhibition category of last Saturday's CNM-PSS Multiple School Unit JRTOC drill competition at the Marianas High School grounds.

JON PEREZ



## ARRIVALS

From Page 1

second month in a row, soaring 80 percent to 30,831 visitors, representing nearly half of all tourist arrivals to the Marianas.

South Korea's strong outbound market provide direct flight services to the Marianas via five airlines: Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, Jin Air, Eastar, and T'way.

Arrivals from China increased by 23 percent to 25,403 visitors.

The Chinese New Year holiday was celebrated in January this year, compared to falling in the month of February in 2016.

Also, in January China's outbound travel increased 9.8 percent compared to January 2016, and the price index of Saipan ranked a favorable fifth compared to other island destinations.

Lastly, Dynamic International Airways operated charter flights in six cities in

January, continuing through the end of the Spring Festival holiday period in early February; these cities, including Wuxi and Hangzhou, are all second-tier cities which have been gaining increased recognition and momentum due to the rapid development taking place in each of the respective cities.

Arrivals from Hong Kong increased by 101 percent in January to 295 following the launch of regular direct flights to Saipan by Hong Kong Express, providing more convenient travel at low cost for visitors from both Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta in mainland China.

Arrivals from Japan fell 26 percent to 4,058 visitors in January, largely due a reduction in air seats. Market conditions have begun to stabilize with the adjusted seating capacity on the sole direct flight between the Marianas and Japan.

Delta Air Lines' flight from Tokyo-Narita to Saipan had

a capacity of 169 total daily seats in January 2017 versus 199 seating capacity in January 2016, a decrease of 30 available seats in January 2017 due to standard aircraft rotation.

Talks between the MVA and Delta are ongoing regarding the possible increase in flight service to the Marianas in 2017.

The revived image and new branding of the Marianas was well-received at last week's Marianas Seminar and Workshop series in Japan. Travel agents and airline partners are keen about the anticipated opening of new hotel rooms this year, which would ease strong room competition with other source markets.

MVA has also launched its 2017 Group Incentive Campaign to encourage group travel during the shoulder season (low season) and is working on increasing the frequency of charter service in summer 2017 from Osaka and Nagoya.

The NMI also received one

cruise ship arrival in January with 1,903 visitors aboard, largely from China.

### Economic highlights

South Korea's central bank has lowered its 2017 growth outlook to 2.5 percent, citing greater risks from already weak domestic consumption. The bank's projection is slightly gloomier than the Finance Ministry's growth target of 2.6 percent, but rosier than most think tanks' 2.1-2.4 percent forecasts. The average dollar/won exchange rate in January was 1,189.52 won, considerably up from the December rate of 1,170.63 won.

In December 2016, the Chinese national consumer price index rose 2.1 percent. Also, never before has China experienced an exodus of this magnitude during the Chinese New Year celebrations, with over 700 million individual trips having been undertaken, both domestically and internationally. (MVA)

## MAN

From Page 1

The store owner handed the robber money from the counter, but the suspect asked for more. At one point, the suspect had a hard time holding the bills as the store owner handed him more money.

Before leaving the counter, the suspect sprayed pepper mace on the victim's face. The store owner's horrified 13-year-old son, who was near the counter, managed to run off.

When the suspect ran out-

side the store, the store owner ran to follow the suspect. Police were then called.

It was the first time the store was robbed after it opened in 2012.

Last October, a 44-year-old woman was injured when a group of masked persons beat her up, tied her arms behind her back, and taped her mouth during a robbery at her residence in Gualo Rai.

The suspects managed to take only a cell phone as they ran away when the victim's roommate arrived at the house, police said.

## CASTRO

From Page 1

burglars in November.

He said his clothes were all completely taken from a shelf.

The burglar/s managed to enter the house by breaking a window pane on a sliding door and damaging a window frame in the kitchen.

Castro said he was on Tinian when it happened and that his family was not in the house at that time.

"It's frustrating because they decided to do it again. It's already enough they invaded my private place one time. ... The first [time, it] happened before Christmas.

This [latest] burglary happened while I was away," he said.

Castro hopes that authorities would soon identify and arrest the burglars in the two incidents.

Castro was installed last month as chairman of the 14th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council. One of the concerns he wants to address during his two-year term is how to improve the Neighborhood Watch Program.

In the latter part of November 2016, burglars ransacked Castro's house of several items worth over \$2,000. As of yesterday, no one has been arrested in both cases. (Ferdie de la Torre)



By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Roughly, only about 14 percent of Northern Marianas College students graduate, which is low but reflects the national trend, according to NMC associate professor Dr. Dean Papadopoulos.

Speaking yesterday at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Papadopoulos said that NMC's graduation percentage is consistent when compared to his former university, which he did not name.

# 'Only 14 percent of NMC students graduate'

This leads him to believe that the low graduation rate is a "national trend."

"Where I went to college, at a state teachers university, 14.5 percent was the graduation rate. At [NMC], it is very similar. When I ran the stats 15 years ago, the number didn't really change," he said. "Many students begin college and very few finish college."

Papadopoulos said it is essential that instructors "understand the context in which a

student comes into our classroom—the more committed we could be to help them graduate."

According to Papadopoulos, "the reality is there are many reasons why students don't finish college, including not having the academic skills; including family responsibilities, a necessity to enter the economy probably before they would like to, including raising their brothers and sisters, and taking care of their elder relatives in the house."

"Nobody leaves college willingly; people leave because there is a necessity to leave," he added.

Papadopoulos mentioned that when any student graduates, "we know it is a miracle."

He said the most satisfying part of his job as an educator is the ability to impact an individual's life.

"The pleasure of teaching and being in the school system for 25 years, as I have been, is we get to be part of people's lives and helping them improve their quality of life," he said.

It could get frustrating, though, on the employer's side.

D&Q resident manager Max Kretzer said the company needs to fill certain positions that require a bachelor's degree.

According to Kretzer, the statistics of college graduation rate was interesting to him because as job applications are reviewed, majority of the applicants only had a portion of a college education as opposed

to degrees.

"A lot of kids put down that they have been to college but very few put down that they have a degree. I was surprised with the statistics, but it matched what I was seeing," said Kretzer.

At one point, D&Q was in need of accounting people and, needless to say, required a degree as a minimum requirement, Kretzer said.

"We need some qualified people. There are not many qualified people on Saipan. It is probably improving, but it is a competitive market for those people," he said. "I'd like to see more kids getting into college and completing college. We need to keep the workers here in the CNMI."

Papadopoulos said that NMC intentionally tries to fit the many schedules of its students to its course offerings.

"We offer classes in the morning, afternoon, and in the evening. There are also several classes on Saturday," he said. "We have the traditional students who have time between 9am and 5pm to come to our classes. We have workings students that could only attend classes after their working days; we are doing the best we can."

Although there is no straightforward solution the college could provide, Papadopoulos said that all they could do is "be aware of [the graduation trend] and continue to welcome and to teach the students that are before us."

## Casino commission plans to have own office built

By **JON PEREZ**  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is planning to have its own office, a facility that will have enough room for the entire team.

The commission, which currently rents office space at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, acts as the regulating agency of the gaming industry.

Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said they are now communicating with the Office of the Governor to help them find a space where their office could be built.

"We are anticipating that since [Imperial Pacific International, Ltd.] is granted a 40-year license, we would need our own office. Two years had already gone by and we still have 38 more years, so we are looking for a permanent location," said Deleon Guerrero.

"The commission is requesting Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres for an available public land. We are asking the governor that the commission be granted a land to build our office. We have already identified two to three sites, one of which is a vacant lot next to the Retirement Fund building."

The lot area they are looking for measures between 10,000 and 20,000 square meters and the project would cost close to \$6 million.

"We are asking for the governor's assistance to have the Department of Public Lands help us."

"We are looking at various funding sources like the [U.S. Department of Agriculture] or [Department of Energy]. We are looking at using a hybrid source of energy, having solar power as back up. We will also have an independent water source."

Deleon Guerrero said they also plan to coordinate with Epi Cabrera of the CNMI Grants Management Office in looking for various funding sources. "We are looking at a combination of loan and grant."

"We're going to look at various funding sources and any

other money that we could secure in constructing the office. We're going to look at the various options available, both local and federal grants in making it a sustainable office."

### Reviewing junket applicants

Deleon Guerrero said they are reviewing two more junket operator applicants, after already granting a provisional license to Big Bang Entertainment, whose clients are mainly from Japan and South Korea.

"There's already one licensed junket operator and we're currently reviewing two more. We're also waiting for others to submit their complete requirements. Once their requirements are complete, they should come here for a personal interview."

A company owned by Zhang Hong, represented by lawyer Benjamin K. Petersburg, is one of the two that the commission is currently reviewing.



### RESOURCE STUDY

From left, National Parks Service representatives Jim Richardson, Anna Tamura, and Jean Boscacci talked yesterday about a special resources study they would do for Rota at the House chamber on Capital Hill.

JON PEREZ

### TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiñan  
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Monday, February 27, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room.

### AGENDA

- I. **PRELIMINARY**
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption of Minutes
- (1) January 30, 2017
- (2) March 12, 2015 rescheduled to March 19, 2015 with continuation on March 20, 2015 and March 25, 2015
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**<sup>1</sup>
- III. **REPORTS**
  - a. Chair's Report
  - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  - (a) Proposed TCGCC Personnel Rules and Regulations Amendments
  - Part 500 §170-30.5-510 – Leave Balances from Previous Employment – Adoption and Certification
- V. **NEW BUSINESS**
- VI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**<sup>2</sup>
- VII. **MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT**

<sup>1</sup>Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

<sup>2</sup>Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

## RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Wednesday, February 22, 2017**. Payments not received by close of business on **Feb. 22** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Wednesday, February 22, 2017**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Wednesday, February 22**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Rd., Gulao Rai office.



To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:

SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm  
Chalan Lamlau – up to 5:00pm  
Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm  
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm  
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

**PAY BY PHONE: 682-4ITE (4483)**



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**8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
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**Seventh-day  
Adventist  
Clinic**

**234-6323**



By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Even churches are not safe from burglars these days.

The Grace Christian Assembly church in San Antonio was burglarized over the weekend and several items and coins worth over \$4,000 were stolen.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release information about the burglary.

Alain Nunez, a pastor of Grace Christian Assembly, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that he discovered the break-in when he went to the church on Saturday at 6am for morning prayers.

Nunez said he noticed that a ladder was in the middle of the church while a monitor and projector were missing.

Stolen were four speakers, two projectors, an Acer desktop computer, a 24-inch computer monitor, a 32-inch Panasonic flatscreen TV, an Alvarez acoustic guitar, food in packages, and a children's piggy bank containing \$100 to \$200 in coins.

The burglar/s gained entry by detaching the window



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Photo shows the inside of the Grace Christian Assembly church in San Antonio where a ladder was left in the middle of the church after burglars used it to remove a monitor and a projector over the weekend. Several others items and coins all worth over \$4,000 were stolen.

grills in the women's restroom at the back of the church. The same suspect/s used the same restroom's window as the exit point. The church's door has double locks.

Nunez said police responded and investigated the incident.

He said the owner of the land where the church is located saw a group of teenagers hanging around on Friday at about 8:30pm and told them to leave.

## SPC hosts Australia's minister for the Pacific

**SUVA, Fiji**—Australia's minister for International Development and the Pacific, Sen. Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, reaffirmed support for sustainable agriculture in the region, after a visit to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's Center for Pacific Crops and Trees yesterday.

CePaCT is the Pacific's only internationally recognized gene bank, housing over 2,000 plant tissue cultures, including the largest collection of taro varieties globally. The center was established in 1998 with support from the Australian government—through the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research—and the European Union.

During her tour, Fierravanti-Wells witnessed how

the center helps to conserve the region's plant genetic resources, improving plant diversity and strengthening food security in the region.

The minister also took the opportunity to announce additional Australian government funding of up to AU\$250,000 for the center and the opening of an ACIAR office at the Australian High Commission in Suva.

The visit reflects Australia's commitment to sustainable development in the Pacific, through supporting the center's work in addressing vulnerabilities of Pacific communities and supporting their development aspirations.

"Australia is both founding member and a valuable development partner of SPC.

"SPC is delighted to be

able to host...Fierravanti-Wells at CePaCT to showcase the successful outcomes of this important partnership, which is particularly timely as SPC celebrates its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year," Pacific Community deputy director-general (Suva) Dr. Audrey Aumua said.

Following Samoa's taro leaf blight in the 1990s, Australia played a vital role in supporting a breeding program that succeeded in the delivery of blight-resistant taro varieties.

"Agricultural research remains a key priority for SPC, and ACIAR continues to play a vital role in supporting these efforts," Aumua said.

The Pacific region is home to a range of endemic and untapped biodiversity that can sustain global food security. It is one of the world's biodi-

versity hotspots, supporting Pacific livelihoods.

While CePaCT is the lead gene bank on taro collection globally, it maintains over a dozen culturally and economically important food crops including banana, breadfruit, cassava, sweet potato, and yam. The center's important role in the research has contributed to over 70,000 tissue culture derived plantlets distributed to 51 countries, including 22 Pacific Island countries and territories.

The center has also distributed over 200 tissue culture breadfruit seedlings to Fiji's Ministry of Primary Industries Department of Agriculture for field research, as part of the Pacific Breadfruit Project, a pilot initiative in Fiji supported through ACIAR. (SPC)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-DCAA/HPO-097 (A-C)**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 22, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) PICK UP TRUCKS (4DRS.),  
PURCHASE OF A CLASS "I" AND A CLASS "D" VEHICLE FOR THE DCCA –  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER  
SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-DCAA/HPO-098 – CIF ROTA**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 22, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK (4DRS.) FOR THE DCCA –  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE – ROTA BRANCH"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER  
SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-DPW/R&G-095**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 15, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 4X4 PICK UP TRUCK –  
4 DOORS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
ROADS AND GROUNDS DIVISION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-DCAA/HPO-099 – CIF TINIAN**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 22, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK (4DRS.) FOR THE DCCA –  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE – TINIAN BRANCH"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER  
SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-NMHC-101**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 22, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK (CREW CAB)  
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JESSE S. PALACIOS  
CORPORATE DIRECTOR, NMHC

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-DLNR/DOA-093**

**SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRAURY 28, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"LEASE OF A 4X4 PICK UP TRUCK (4 FULL DOORS) FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RICHARD B. SEMAN  
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
IRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB 17-SAR-081**

**SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 3, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 PICK UP TRUCK – 4 DOORS (OFF-ROAD AND TOWING  
PACKAGE) FOR THE OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND REHABILITATION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ YVETTE R. SABLAN  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE & REHABILITATION

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR OF P&S



# Andrew Reese is college's new chief financial officer

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez announced yesterday the appointment of Andrew Reese, a certified public accountant, as the college's new chief financial officer.

"We are very pleased to welcome someone of Andrew's caliber to Northern Marianas College," said Fernandez. "His extensive financial experience makes him a great fit for his new position at the college."

In his new post, Reese will be the primary financial manager of the college and will oversee the college's Finance Office, Budget Office, and the Procurement Management Office. He will also assist in overseeing college investments, help enhance audit processes, and monitor internal control measures.

"I'm excited to be joining the dynamic team at Northern Marianas College," said

Reese. "I've always been a big believer in the value that community colleges have in the development and professional growth of students, and I look forward to being a part of NMC's mission to expand educational and training opportunities for all residents."

Prior to joining Northern Marianas College, Reese worked as the lead general ledger accountant for the Thermal Supply, Inc., a company with over \$220 million in revenues. In this capacity Reese supervised the accounting staff, compiled monthly financial statement for 24 branches, and performed other financial duties for the organization.

He also worked as a registered investment adviser for Morgan Stanley, where Reese supported the company's Wealth Management



Group with \$320 million in assets under management. Reese also performed stock, option, and bond trades at the direction of financial advisers and clients. Furthermore,

Reese also worked as general manager for D&L Jones Food Services, general manager and new store opening trainer for The Counter Burger, and also owned and operated a retail ice cream franchise for Cold Stone Creamery.

Reese earned his master's degree in business administration in 2015 from Seattle University, where he specialized in leadership formation. During this time he earned a graduate certificate in accounting. He graduated with his bachelor's degree in general studies from Western Washington University. (NMC)

## NPS corrects date for Guam meet of Rota study

The National Park Service corrected yesterday the date of the public meeting that will be held in Guam in connection with a study of the unique natural and cultural resources of the island of Rota in the CNMI.

"The Rota Special Resource Study public meeting scheduled for Guam will take place on Monday, Feb. 27, and not Feb. 24 as originally reported," the statement said.

As directed by the U.S. Congress (Public Law 113-291 Section 3051, Dec. 19, 2014), NPS is conducting a study of Rota's prehistoric and historic resources and limestone forests.

The Rota Special Resource Study will evaluate the national significance of the area and the suitability and feasibility of designating the area as a unit of the national park system. The study is expected to take two-three years to complete.

The NPS is hosting public meetings in the CNMI and Guam as well as two virtual (online) meetings to introduce the study, answer questions, and solicit public ideas and interests.

On Saipan, the meeting will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 21, from 6pm to 8pm, at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theater

in Garapan.

On Rota, the meeting will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 22, from 6pm to 8pm, and on Thursday, Feb. 23, from 9am to 11am, both at the Rota Mayor's Office.

Chamorro language translation will be provided at the Saipan and Rota meetings.

In Guam, it will take place on Monday, Feb. 27, from 6pm to 8pm, at the Guam Museum auditorium.

There will also be two virtual (online) meetings. The first one is on Thursday, March 9, from 9am to 10:30am. Go to [www.gotomeeting.com](http://www.gotomeeting.com), click on "Join Webinar" in the upper right, and enter Webinar ID: 210-509-451.

The second virtual (online) meeting will take place on Friday, March 10, from 6am to 7:30am. Go to [www.gotomeeting.com](http://www.gotomeeting.com), click on "Join Webinar" in the upper right, and enter Webinar ID: 879-835-067

A special resource study evaluates the eligibility of an area to be designated as a national park or other special designation. As defined in the study legislation, the study focuses on the prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota. The National Park Service collects information about the quality of resources in the study

area, evaluates the potential for visitor enjoyment and efficient management, and analyzes the feasibility and appropriateness of different management options including alternative ways that local, CNMI, federal, and private entities can further protect and interpret Rota's important places. The study will respect and retain the authorities of the CNMI government and private property owners.

The NPS provides its findings to the Secretary of the Interior. If the Rota study results in a recommendation from the Secretary of the Interior that areas of Rota warrant addition to the national park system, Congress may or may not act on or follow the recommendation. Other outcomes of the study could include: no change from the existing management structure, local CNMI public and/or private management options, additional NPS technical assistance, or other local, national, or international designations.

For more information:

■ Contact Jean Boscacci, project manager at 415-623-2312

■ Email the study team at [Rota\\_study@nps.gov](mailto:Rota_study@nps.gov)

■ View the project web site at [parkplanning.nps.gov/rotastudy](http://parkplanning.nps.gov/rotastudy) (NPS)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Office of the Secretary of Public Works

ENERGY DIVISION

P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4480/1 • Fax No. (670) 664-4483 • e-mail: [cnmienergy@gmail.com](mailto:cnmienergy@gmail.com)



### PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor in cooperation with the Department of Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) will be conducting a public hearing to present the proposed WAP State Plan for Program Year 2017 and is inviting the General Public to attend this important Public Hearing.

The public hearing will be held at the Energy Division office located on Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 on Friday, February 24, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Individuals who are unable to attend the public hearing in person may submit written comments to the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337, Saipan or by e-mail to [cnmienergy@gmail.com](mailto:cnmienergy@gmail.com) or by mail to P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 on or before close of business on Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

Copies of the Draft State Plan will be made available at the Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House No. 1337 beginning Monday, February 20, 2017.

For more information, you may contact Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, at 664-4480/81 or you may visit the Energy Division Office on Capitol Hill, Monday to Friday, except holidays, and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### HINEKKUNGUK PUPBLIKU

I Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha gi Ufisinan Gubietnu yan i ko'operasion i Dipattamentun Che'chu' Pupbliku/Dibision Energy gi Prugraman Asistensian Weatherization (WAP) para u makundudukta hinekkunguk pupbliku ni para u maprisenta i manmaproponi na WAP State Plan para i Prugraman i sakkan 2017 yan ha kumbibida i Pupbliku Henerat para u ma'atendi esti na impottantin Hinekkunguk Henerat.

I hinekkunguk pupbliku para u makundukta gi Dibision Energy, giya Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' #1337, gi Betnes, Febreru 24, 2017, gi oran alas 5:00 gi pupuengi. Todu indibiyuat siha ni ti sumiña umatendi i hinekkunguk henerat siña muna'halum tinigi' upiñon siha guatu gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337, Saipan pat i email guatu gi [cnmienergy@gmail.com](mailto:cnmienergy@gmail.com) pat na'hano i kattam-mu guatu gi P.O. Box 500340, Saipan, MP 96950 gi pat antis di u mahuchum i ufisina gi , Mattes, Mats 14, 2017.

Kopia siha gi Draft State Plan para u mana'guaha gi Dibision Energy, Capitol Hill, Numirun Guma' 1337 tinituhun gi Lunes, Febreru 20, 2017.

Para mas infomasyon, siña un agang si Thelma B. Inos, Direktot Energy, gi 664-4480/81 pat siña un bisita i Ufisinan Dibision Energy giya Capitol Hill, Lunis asta Betnes, fuera di holidays, yan gi oran alas 11:30 gi egga'an asta alas 12:30 gi dispues di talu'ani.

### ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Sow Lemelem loll Commonwealth wól Téel Fátuw kka Faluwach Efang Marianas fengal me alilisil Bwulasiyool Public Works/Energy Division Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) e bwe ayoor aew arongorong teer toulap bwelle e bwe apasa rel pommol WAP State Plan rel Program Year 2016.

Arongorong yeel e bwe fis me rel Energy Division me Capitol Hill, House #1337, wól Bennis, Maischigh 24, 2017, óttol 5:00 p.m.

Schóokka rese tarwe re bwe fiti arong yeel, e mmwel schagh u bwe iischilong mádítyómw rel Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House # 1337, Seipél: ngáre e-mail ngáli: [cnmienergy@gmail.com](mailto:cnmienergy@gmail.com) me ngáre afanga ngáli P.O.Box 500340, Seipél, MP 96950 wól me ngáre mmwal igha ebwe titlil ótol angaang wól Mwarts, Mádlap 14, 2017.

Kkopiya Draft Plan yeel nge emmwat rebwe bweibwogh me Energy Division, Capitol Hill, House #1337, wól Lunnis, Maischigh 20, 2017.

Rel kkapasal, e mmwel ów bwe fatangi ló llemwáar ye Thelma B. Inos, Energy Director, rel 664-4480/81 me ngáre igha u bwe mwette ló rel Bwulasiyol Energy Division ye e llo Capitol hill, Luunis mwette ngáli Bennis, saabw holidays, me ótol 11:30 a.m. ngáli 12:30 p.m.

/s/ James A. Ada  
Secretary of Public Works



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



## INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-17-019

### GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CUC WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITIES, SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms capable of providing Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water and Wastewater facilities in Saipan, in compliance with USEPA inspection and sanitary survey requirements.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$50.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by a site visit is scheduled for **March 2, 2017** at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Saipan, to ensure prospective bidders are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions.

CUC will award a contract to more than one firm for said services, based on bids for "Service Section" pursuant to Scope-of-Work.

**One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-17-019, Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water & Wastewater Facilities, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on March 17, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered prospective bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on March 6, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email — [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Gary Byrd, CUC Water & Wastewater Division Manager via email-gary.byrd@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Procurement Technician, via email-marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.



**ANNUAL MEETING**

Members of the Rematao Music Society, Inc. have their picture taken on Feb. 18 during the group's recent fundraising. From left, Florence S. Kirby, Jesus M. Elameto (president) Maria I. Elameto, Emi P. Palican, Rep. Joe I. Itibus and his son and Lino M. Olopai. The Rematao Music Society, Inc. will have its annual meeting on March 9, 2017, at the Carolinian utt across the Bank of Guam on Beach Road, Garapan, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Any interested individuals may come to this meeting.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Fifteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a **Special Board Meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the Office of the Commissioner of Education Conference Room, Building 1211, Capitol Hill, Saipan.**

**AGENDA<sup>1</sup>****I. Preliminary**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
  - a. January 9, 2017 Special Board Meeting (14th)
  - b. January 9, 2017 Special Board Meeting (15th)
  - c. January 23, 2017 Regular Board Meeting

**II. Public Comments<sup>2</sup>****III. Reports**

1. Chair
2. Board Committees
  - a. FPA
  - b. LIA
  - c. SICPP
3. Commissioner of Education
  - a. Financial Status Reports
    - i. Federal
    - ii. Local
  - b. Head Start Program
  - c. Others

**IV. New Business**

1. PSS Credit Card Application
2. Proposed FTE
  - a. EEO Investigator-LCO
3. Annual Reports
  - a. PSS
  - b. JROTC
4. Human Resources Office
  - a. Non-Certified Compensation Plan Proposal
  - b. Classroom-Teacher-Instructor-TA Proposal
  - c. Highly Qualified Counselors Compensation Proposal
  - d. Classification Guideline Proposal
5. School Matters
  - a. William S. Reyes Elementary School Logo
  - b. Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School MOA
  - c. Garapan Elementary School
6. Repeal of PSS Child Care Program Rules and Regulations
7. School Calendar for SY 2017-2018
  - e. K-12
  - f. Head Start Program
  - g. Early Intervention Program
8. Head Start Program
  - a. Revised Calendar for SY2016-2017
  - b. Reports (PIR and Summary Report)
  - c. Under-enrollment Letter
9. Proposed Budget for FY'18
10. Revised Organizational Chart
11. Certification and Licensure Matters
  - a. CLO Report No. 2017-002

**V. Executive Session<sup>3</sup>**

1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

**VI. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting****VII. Adjournment**

<sup>1</sup> In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**COMMUNITY BRIEFS****SHRM meeting speaker to talk of CW program future**

The Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter's meeting this month will feature Juan Carlos Benitez, executive director of the Guam Republican Party. He will address the present status of the CNMI's CW program. This is open to the public. Benitez will provide an opportunity for questions.

This SHRM lunch meeting will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017, from 11:30am to 1:30 pm. The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited; for reservations contact Penny Jones by e-mail at [penelope.jones@hyatt.com](mailto:penelope.jones@hyatt.com) or by telephone at 323-5868. (SHRM)

**Navy training at Warning Area 517**

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Feb. 22, from 7pm to 7:30pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the date and times indicated.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank are open for public use. (PR)

**Navy training in Barrigada**

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 will conduct a training exercise at the former Adm. Nimitz Golf Course in Barrigada on Feb. 23 between 7pm and midnight.

The training involves various scenarios designed to en-

hance tactical readiness and will incorporate blank ammunition fired from military helicopters. The training event will be held over the immediate golf course area.

Residents are advised to not be alarmed if they see or hear an increase in military presence in the vicinity of the Nimitz golf course. (PR)

**9th JP Glow Walk on Feb. 24**

TanHoldings will be holding its 9th Annual JP Walk this Friday, Feb. 24. Registration is \$10 per person, inclusive of a free shirt (while supplies last) and a raffle ticket. The fair will start at 5pm. Pick up registration forms at the JP Center Bldg. along Beach Road in Garapan or register at the site starting at 4pm. There will be two routes. The 3K will start from the Garapan Fishery Base to the turning point across Gold Beach Hotel and there will be a turning point at Quartermaster Road intersection for the 5K. Funds raised from the event will go to the 2017 Marianas March Against Cancer on behalf of TanHoldings. For more information, call Eunice Angeles at (670) 235-0561. (PR)

**Air Force training at Farallon de Medinilla**

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

■ Feb. 21, from 10am to 3:45pm

■ Feb. 22, from 10am to 3:45pm

■ Feb. 24, from 10am to 3:45pm

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

**MIFICPA tax seminar on Feb. 25**

The Marianas Institute of Filipino CPA's and Accountants will be hosting their annual

tax seminar on Feb. 25 at the Raraina, Aqua Resort Club, from 8am to noon. This year's focus will be on tax updates for 2016 and 2017, changes in tax laws, tax filing requirements, and others.

David Burger, CPA, will be conducting the seminar. He is the managing partner of Burger, Comer, and Magliari.

Registration starts at 7:30am. Registration fee for members is \$20. Non-members and non-accountants are also welcome for the same fee.

If you have any questions, email Angie Mamaril at [angiemamaril@yahoo.com](mailto:angiemamaril@yahoo.com), Lois Manese at [eloisamoanese@yahoo.com](mailto:eloisamoanese@yahoo.com), Rose Badidoy at [roseann.badidoy@yahoo.com](mailto:roseann.badidoy@yahoo.com), Butch Ordas at [butchordas@yahoo.com](mailto:butchordas@yahoo.com), Gloria Balila at [mgmbalila@yahoo.com](mailto:mgmbalila@yahoo.com), Michael Anthony Jordan at [mkho\\_22@yahoo.com](mailto:mkho_22@yahoo.com) or Yho Villaviencio at [yhubowl300@gmail.com](mailto:yhubowl300@gmail.com). (PR)

**SHEFA deadline**

To all new, ongoing, and returning applicants, the deadline for supporting documents for SHEFA financial assistance is Feb. 28, 2017. (PR)

**Xavier entrance exam on Feb. 25**

The Xavier High School entrance written exam will be administered on Feb. 25, at 8:30am at Mt. Carmel School. Interested test takers are encouraged to bring several No. 2 pencils, snacks, and water. Exam fee is \$10. There are two parts to the exam (English and math). Each exam lasts one hour and 30 minutes with a 15-minute break in between. Test takers should be prepared to be on the Mt. Carmel school grounds for three hours and 30 minutes from 8am to 11:30pm. Exam starts exactly at 8:30am. Interested exam takers are encouraged to RSVP by Thursday, Feb. 23, to reserve a seat a seat. Email [ialafanso@gmail.com](mailto:ialafanso@gmail.com) or call 285-8768. Xavier High School is a Jesuit Catholic school. (PR)

**Bodybuilding federation to host fundraiser**

The Northern Marianas Bodybuilding & Physique Federation will be holding a "Party in the Park" on Feb. 25, 2017, from 6pm to 9pm, at the Garapan Central Park (Roundhouse) to raise funds for our bodybuilders to compete in local and international competitions. The cost is \$20 per person.

The federation is preparing for the 3rd Annual Marianas Muscle competition to be held on March 25, 2017, and in July it will be holding the CNMI bodybuilding championships.

For tickets, contact Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807 or email [jeanneesq@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneesq@yahoo.com) or Karen Davis, at 789-9214. (PR)

**Kanoa Resort**

Saipan

is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

**(1) A/C REFRIGERATION MECHANIC / TECHNICIAN**

Qualifications: Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration and/or associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or three (3) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Perform a wide array of duties, inspect, maintain and troubleshoot centralized A/C cooling tower. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

**(8) COOK**

Qualifications: High School Diploma, three years actual experience or a combination of two years of education and experience. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Ability to stand for long periods and can lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/or weekends.

Interested applicants may send their applications to [hr@kanoaresort.com](mailto:hr@kanoaresort.com). Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applicants must be submitted not later than March 07, 2017. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons  
with Disabilities are urged to apply.**



STEM Fair winners at the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja. First row, from left, Kaitlyn Balgoa, John Anthony Tobongbanua, Michael Jon Cantil, Edward U. Maratita III, and Eianne Ladao. Back row, from left, Edward Maratita, Jr., Forinda Chavez, school principal Carmen H. Atalig, and Mary Rose Lucero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# ESFDB names STEM Fair winners

“Force and Motion.” “Tobacco Usage on Rota.” “Rising Water.” “The Power Of Spices.” “Cleaning Oil Spill.”

These were just a few of the 29 entries at the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja’s STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Fair, held on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the school campus.

The fair resulted in the selection of five winners who will represent the school and the Rota community in the upcoming Islandwide STEM Fair on March 11, 2017, on Saipan. They are Eianne M. Ladao (1<sup>st</sup> Grade), Edward U. Maratita, III (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade), John Anthony Tobongbanua (4<sup>th</sup> Grade), Kaitlyn Amber P. Balgoa (6<sup>th</sup> Grade), and Michael Jon T. Cantil (6<sup>th</sup> Grade).

Only five students from each school are allowed to participate in the Islandwide STEM Fair.

“We congratulate all the students for their hard work, and look forward to working with them again next year,” said Mary Rose S. Lucero, ESFDB’s 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher and organizer of the school’s STEM fair.

This was the fifth year the school organized the STEM fair for its Kindergarten through eighth-grade students, implemented by school administrator and principal Carmen H. Atalig.

“Our school-level STEM Fair is to science what the Na-

tional Football League Super Bowl is to the New England Patriots,” said Atalig. “Our students are science champions. They are natural young scientists and engineers. This event capitalizes on their innate curiosity to comprehend the universe and honors their efforts to understand it.”

“We must encourage and inspire students to study in the STEM fields and connect them with educational opportunities. Our students are the future inventors, scientists, technicians, engineers, and mathematicians of the Luta community or the CNMI as a whole,” Atalig added.

Lucero praised the judges, parents, and teachers who volunteered their services for the event.

“This is Year 5 and we continue to have amazing and talented students who showcase their projects to these unique judges from our Rota community,” Lucero said. “They are willing to share their inputs to further our student’s knowledge, which does so much to open the world of science, technology, engineering and math.”

These year’s judges are Francisco S. Calvo, Sen. Paul A. Manglona, Rev. Fr. Isidro Ogumoro, Nicolas Songsong, Orly Soria, and Shirley Villanueva. Assisting in the school STEM Fair are science teachers Monette Ladao, Florinda Chavez, and Edward Maratita Jr.(*ESFDB*)

# BEH inspections in January

The Bureau of Environmental Health conducted sanitary inspections in January on the following retail and eating and drinking establishments. Their grades are as follow:

### GRADE “A”

Korea House Restaurant, Susupe  
New Oleai Store, San Jose  
Celis Store, Gualo Rai  
Aqua Resort Club Bakery, Achugao  
Aqua Resort Club Gift Shop, Achugao  
J’s Restaurant, Gualo Rai  
New CK Market, CK  
New CK Market Butcher, CK  
Lucky De Mart 2, San Vicente  
LJ’S Store 2, Garapan  
Roberto’s Café, Airport  
Brothers Market, Kagman  
Brothers Butcher, Kagman  
Aqua Resort Club Costa Coffee Shop, Achugao  
Aqara Resort Club Raraina Restaurant, Achugao  
Good Day Restaurant, Susupe  
Music Bank Restaurant, San Jose  
New Seven Star Market, Dandan  
New Double Restaurant, Garapan  
LJ’s Store, CK  
Garapan Restaurant Café and Grill, Garapan  
Zoom Café, Susupe  
Saint Trading Catering, CK  
Booga Catering, CK  
CMG Mobil Station Retail, San Jose  
LF Market, CK  
Alpex Wholesale, San Antonio  
Pacific Star Wholesale, Chalan Laulau

### GRADE “B”

Cheng Cheng Market, Dandan  
Tian Market 1, Chalan Kanoa  
Aqua Resort Club Main Kitchen, Achugao  
Aqua Resort Club Vino Lobby Bar,Achugao  
LF Restaurant, CK  
Café Judy’s, As Lito  
New Chang Ming Market, Garapan

### GRADE “C”

COP Club House Double Eagle Restaurant, Koblerville

Establishment(s) ordered closed for serious violations of health and sanitation standards.

Matty’s Catering, BBQ Stand and Retail (Alliance Ent. Inc.) 12/21/16; Reopened 1/13/17

Li Hair Cut, San Antonio (Dong Fant. Trading Corp.) 1/5/17; Reopened 1/09/17  
Cheng Cheng Butcher, Dandan 1/6/17; Reopened 1/13/17

New Grand Market, Lower Navy Hill 1/11/17-Reopened 1/13/17

CYC Store, Kagman 1/11/17; Reopened 1/18/17


New Chang Ming Butcher, Garapan 1/18/17; Reopend 2/2/17





## DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950  
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



### AMENDED FOR THE February 17, 2017 NOTICE OF APPLICATION

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Imperial Pacific International	11/14/2016 SS-2017-X-016	Habitat Restoration &	Garapan, Saipan Conservation Plan	Shoreline	Extended – Pending Submission
2. Hayden Corporation	12/27/2016 SW-2017-X-021	Staging	Capitol Hill, Saipan	Wetland	Approved, 02/17/2017
3. Marianas Enterprise Limited	12/30/2016 SWm-2017-X-022	Staging	Tanapag, Saipan	Wetland	Under Review - Extended
4. Bridge Investment Group	12/30/2016 TPLm-2015-X-065 Amendment 2017-1	Staging	Tinian	Ports & Industrial	Under Review - Extended
5. Saipan Intl. Real Estate Development dba. Ocean Vista	01/04/2017 SMS-2015-X-010 Amendment 2017-1	Design Revision/Expansion	Capitol Hill, Saipan	Major Siting	Public Hearing 03/07/2017
6.Tai Su International Development Inc.	09/12/2016 SMS-2016-X-076	Beach Road Ocean View Resort Complex	Beach Road, Saipan	Major Siting	Public Hearing 03/07/2017
7. Rota Department of Public Works	09/28/2016	Coral Quarry (Mining & Operations)	Igua, Rota	Major Siting Operations)	Public Hearing 03/09/2017
8. Aqua Marine Corporation	01/26/2017 SLRm-2005-X-127	Marine Sports Activities Scuba Diving Tour Operation	Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal- Approved 02/06/2017
9. Forson Holding (CNMI), LLC	01/30/2017 SMS-2017-X-029	Amendment and Transfer of Permit from American Textile (SMS-97-X-85)	Tanapag, Saipan	Major Siting	Under Review*
10. Aquaville Inc.	01/30/2017 SLRm-2013-X-006	Marine Sports Activities Banana Boat Operation	Tanapag, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal-Approved 02/07/2017
11. Auto Marine Inc.	01/30/2017 SLRm-98-X-224	Marine Sports Activities Reef Walker Operation	Puerto Rico, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal-Approved 02/07/2017
12. Time Creation Corp. Dba. TCC Diving Tour	02/07/2017 SLRm-2014-X-011	Marine Sports Activities Scuba Diving Tour Operation	Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal-Approved 02/09/2017
13. SUP Saipan, LLC	02/08/2017 SLRm-2013-X-017	Marine Sports Activities Standup Paddle	Beach Road, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal-Approved 02/09/2017
14. Mark Arnold L. Santos dba. Mac’s Marine	02/09/2017 SLRm-2007-X-092	Marine Sports Activities Banana Boat Operation	Tanapag, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal – Under Review
15. Castle Project CNMI LLC	02/01/2017 SMS-96-X-376 Amendment 2017-1	Renovation	Tanapag, Saipan	Major Siting	Under Review
16. Department of Public Works	02/07/2017 SWm-2017-X-029	Access Road Relocation	San Vicente, Saipan	Wetland	Under Review*
17. MDA Enterprises, Inc.	02/07/2017 SCHm-2017-X-030	Building Extension & Renovation	San Roque, Saipan	Coastal Hazard	Approved, 02/09/2017
18. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	02/09/2017 SPI/Wm-2017-X-031	Replace & Repair Sewer Leak	Lower Base, Saipan	Multiple APCs	Approved, 02/10/2017
19. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation	02/13/2017 SPI-2017-X-032	To install 3-40 Primary Power Poles	Tanapag, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
20. Windsurfing Saipan Inc.	02/13/2017 SS/LR-2017-X-033	35th Micronesian Open Windsurfing Regatta	Micro Beach, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Opinion

Hafa Adail

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR  
jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com

**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Good, bad and fake news on vaccines

Childhood deaths have been falling worldwide since 1990. In their foundation's annual letter last week, Bill and Melinda Gates estimated that science had saved 122 million children in the last quarter-century.

That's a population larger than three Californias. What saved them? Vaccines, mostly.

The percentage of children receiving basic immunization is now at a historic high, internationally speaking. It's "incredible progress," the Gates Foundation report said, a triumph of foreign aid, charitable giving and bootstrap determination on the part of developing nations. By any measure, it's something to celebrate.

So why on earth, amid that good news, would other famous Americans want to undermine childhood immunization? In Washington, D.C., Robert Kennedy Jr. and Robert De Niro spoke on a panel stoking conspiracy theories about the safety of vaccines.

Their stance was based on widely discredited research that purports to link vaccines and autism. There is no such link, and claims to the contrary are not only fake science, but irresponsible and pernicious.

Though vaccines have eradicated many lethal childhood diseases, those diseases can come roaring back if we don't maintain an immunization rate of about 90 percent or higher. And anti-vaxxers—both the hardcore kind and the easily led worriers who simply delay or resist vaccinations—have managed in some communities to lower herd immunity to dangerous levels. That's how the Disneyland measles outbreak happened, and why vaccine laws were tightened in California.

But most states still allow exemptions for religious and philosophical reasons. And in recent years, vaccination has become almost as politicized as climate science. In Texas, for example, anti-vax political action committees are trying to prevent that state's vaccine laws from being tightened, the better to resist alleged government intrusion. As a result, public health experts fear the next major measles outbreak will be in the Lone Star State.

De Niro, the famed actor, has a child with autism. Kennedy, of the political dynasty, has said that President Donald Trump wants him to chair a national commission on vaccines. Trump said they were just tossing around ideas, but during the 2016 campaign, the president publicly questioned vaccine safety. It is appalling that such willed ignorance should be threatening Americans just as the rest of the planet is making so much progress. First World problems, indeed.

(c)2017 The Sacramento Bee (Sacramento, Calif.)



## Bringing science down to earth

As scientists, we tend to tell our story via breakthroughs, paradigm shifts that shake the foundations of knowledge and remake everyone's understanding of how the world works. It's a tale of high-flying, singular brilliance, of Einsteins and Darwins, of pure genius.

Such a narrative of exceptionalism isn't entirely wrong, but it's wrong enough to help skew the way society thinks about science and to sow doubt about its findings. It puts us and our work too far out of the reach of too many people, and earns us epithets like "elitist" and "arrogant."

The truth about science is much more prosaic. Detailed case studies on the history of chemistry and physics show that the role of genius in advancing those fields—and even the role of rationality—is overstated. Rather than a hyper-intellectual, alien activity practiced by a remote priesthood, science is hit and miss, the ever-changing product of less-than-brilliant people, just like every other human activity.

Have you ever heard of John Nicholson, Anton Van den Broek, Richard Abegg, Charles Bury, John Main Smith, Edmund Stoner and Charles Janet? Don't worry, chances are many experts in the field of atomic structure—on which all of the above-named scientists worked—haven't heard of them either. After all, the feature linking these men is that, broadly speaking, they didn't always know what they were doing. In some cases, much of what they published turned out to be incorrect.

And yet each of them proposed one or two key ideas in their lifetimes that were picked up by others, modified and tested, and eventually led to major breakthroughs.

In the 1910s, the English mathematical physicist John Nicholson published a number of articles in which he proposed that several proto-elements (his term) existed in outer space and were the basis of our familiar terrestrial elements. Their presence in a number of celestial bodies, he claimed, enabled him for the first time to do successful calculations on the light reaching us from the Orion nebula and the solar corona.

At first his findings seemed to hold up, but it soon became clear that the calculations were incorrect or the result of numerological speculations. Nevertheless in the course of his work Nicholson also proposed that the angular momentum of electrons circulating around a nucleus should be "quantized," meaning that it could only occur with specific definite values. This notion would set Danish physicist (and, ultimately, Nobel Prize winner) Niels Bohr off on his theory of the structure of the hydrogen atom. From that, quantum mechanics and all the technological applications based on it—including lasers and semiconductors—would follow.

Something similar happened with each of the other unknown scientists on my list. Their haphazard, often pedestrian work still provided keys to, for example, how the elements in the periodic

By **ERIC SCERRI**

Los Angeles Times

*Eric Scerri teaches chemistry and philosophy of science at UCLA. His latest book is A Tale of Seven Scientists and a New Philosophy of Science. His website is [www.ericscerri.com](http://www.ericscerri.com). He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.*



table should be ordered (Van den Broek) and the "octet rule" that explains much of chemical bonding (Abegg).

When the whole of the history of atomic theory is understood, it's clear that the missing links turned up by these "regular people" scientists, and the details and even the dead ends they accumulated, are every bit as important as the insights of a star such as Bohr.

This view of science casts a dim light on priority disputes—the intense battles over who was or should be considered first to a discovery—which happens even among otherwise perfectly modest scientists. It helps explain why multiple researchers arrive at the same conclusion so often: Science is a cumulative, incremental, collective effort. Fierce competition among individuals is inevitable, and it may serve to develop better science in the short run, but overall, even heroic individual achievements are simply not as important as the ever-evolving whole.

In these doubting days, almost everyone at least accepts the utility of some science. Very few people so doubt the findings of aeronautics, for example, that they won't board an airplane. But a significant portion of the general public still finds science baffling. What is incomprehensible is regarded as questionable; what is puzzling can be dismissed. It doesn't help that science represents our deepest and most reliable knowledge of the world and yet is also provisional—what we know is constantly being adjusted, tested.

In this too, however, science isn't unusual. Like life itself, it progresses by trial and error. It depends on humans simply trying things out, even if its practitioners don't always want to admit it.

Science is what we know to the best of our human abilities. Such as: Vaccinations don't cause autism; GMO corn is as safe as every other crop that has been genetically modified by other means for thousands of years; and Earth is warming past dangerous levels. The process that resulted in these findings isn't incomprehensible, remote or elitist. Even the rarefied field of atomic theory is built on human error and serendipity, on non-genius randomly groping around.

The better science communicates this notion, along with its fundamental ordinariness, the better its chances of being heard, understood and valued.



## EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Presun kutturan natibu

**A**solas, hu pega talaña-hu gi tanu` para bai` ekuñgog kinalamten familia gi señgsoñgi siha guine.

Namatman i manadan kuentus pot ayudu. Gi utimun haane, hu pesa dinuebu i mansañgan kontra man-chogue. Inipus na yomug seru i tatatte.

Ti namatman na megaiña man-sañgan ke mancho`gue! Anog na mañgekuentus sin antau na hinassu. Appenas fotmat na inadiñgan! Kulan katdumin loru ni man-e`esalau sinparat.

Pot 38 años na tiempu `nai mas man-maluñu` i familia gi halum sisonyan te`ug na pinepble. Mientras tantus, sige ha` i lorun indihinau man`esalau! Pot fabot na para sa` sagi`. Dispues, guaha `nai in` ekuñgog maisa hamyu?

I kuttura yan tradision natibu mas fitme guine gi noteru Marianas ke manu. Gaige i sisteman edukasion lokue` gi santatte sumaunau mananum mas fitme pisu piot gi liñgahen natibu. Ti man-naufragu famaguon-ta gi hila` nanan niha!

### Hinimidde

I tradision relihion Katolisismo gi natibu i pisu ni umatisa man-antau siha na areglu yan fitme na respetu gi entalu` todus desde finattun Española.

Poresu na metgot i sensian hinimidde, yine`ase` yan sattun na inafamauleg. Pas i relasion tautau-ta siha gi todus soñgsoñgi guine.

Gi halum balutan hinimidde hu soda` si Santa Maria ni numa`e hit esperansa (hope) gi ha`anita gi todus pinetsige. Sin ditension hafanu`e hit finapus lahiña ni makastiga yan mapunu` gi kilu`us sin isau pot hita.

Gi tinayuyot-ta lisayu gi estasion pininiti tali`e mas klaru mabidaña si Jesukristu. Mas hana`e hit tiempu umassimula sustansian ha`ani-ta. Tradision relihion tanu` yan luserun linala`ta.

### Definision Amku`

Gi konbetsasion-hu yan amiguu Guelu Fadañg (Tom Mendiola) ha pula klaru haf` definision “amku”. Ilegña i amiguu i “teteñan” sa` esta monhayan lamayot patte man-machogue.

Dispues, sigi ham umachatge pot man-mattu professot yan

tropan liñguahe ginen Guahan machochoneg na debi finu` Chamorun niha gi hechuran diksionariu umatatiye.

Pot fabot fan gaimamahiau. Adahe na che`chu` kabron para u famana`gue i naufragu gi liñguahiña gi prefektu tumuñgu` finu` Chamorro.

Desde tumautau-yu`, iya Luta hasan ma-estotba gi linala` prefektu natibu. Poresu na metgot gi finu` Chamorro ke iya Saipan yan Guahan. Ni haye na professot, piot i chafleg fuminu` Chamorro, makat para bai` akseptu haf` ha keke atisa giya hame. Ti man-naufragu ham piot i mañelun mami giya Luta.

Hu offisiona umadiñgan yan si Guelun Fadañg finu` Chamorro sa` kakantu lokue` finu` Chamorro-hu gi kantit man-naufragu! Finu` i amiguu, “Mauleg ta petsige humatsa tatte i basnag tolai pot sustansian natibu.” Konformeyu`! Gaige gi kuttura yan tradision-ta futtunan famaguon-ta. I liñguahe i solu sahyen para tana` achetun tatte tolai sustansian natibu.

Pot tinituhun, haf` aidentifikat kutturan Chamorro (cultural identity)? Atan i dañu ni pinegan benefisiun imperialista desde tiempun Española. Tihu faichachanak i naufragu na finu` Chamoru giya Guahan. Lau desde 1898 hamyu man-finu` Eñglis ya kasi in` prekura pot satbasion gi nuebu na atoridat imperialista.

**Mehnalum:** `Nai ma-apunta un` tautau kumu ma`gas i mas dañukulu na kompania gi tanu`, mafaisen haf` gaige gi hinassoña yan pot hafa na gaigegue` guihe na puestu?

Ensegidas ha tanchu` papa` ya ilegña, “Pot i tautau siha yan nesessidat niha mina` gaigeyu` guine”. Sumen magahet na todus otganisasion pot tautau. Gi mismu tiempu, debi i otganisasion u iniluye ni mehnalun na kabisiyu para u felis kareraña mona. Este na puntu dumetmimina hinanau maseha haf` na otganisasion.

**Luseru:** Gi hilu` mehnalun, unestu, yan fitme na kinimite ginen i kabisiyu `nai siña felis kinalamten todus pinetsige kau kompania pat ahensian gobienu. Sin este ensegidas mafondu gi halum fachi` chatche`chu`. Estague` mina` presisu na u gai luseru maseha hayigüe` na kabisiyu.

**Tinatemu:** Guaha man-mama` sabiu pot kualifikasion offisiat.

### By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

Malista papa` haf` gaige gi konstitusion. Hombre iya`! Dalai na nina` tatah hinassomu!

Sin banida diberas na gai kualifikasion hau? Mehnaalum hau gi man-sustansiau siha na asuntun linahyan? Kumekuentus hau pot pinepble lau gaige hau gi siyan man-areglu. Pega papa` haf` bidamu umadelanta ha`anen mamopble guine. Na la`agañg sa` mampus ñañgun!

Soluke guaha milagru masusedi guine, taya` adelantu gi kualidat linala` mayotmenti guine siha. Puru saulag fabulas de chispas! Taimanu u guaha adelantu na kada ratu hamyu mañgarera hiyuñg Marianas?

**Yine`ase`:** I famaguon-hu ñietus mangai amigu manguaha, mediu manguaha, yan mamopble. Ayu ma-attendi mas i manga`chong niha ni mamopble.

Gaige gi halum este na famaguon minahalañg espiritun dinanche yan echu che`chu` tautau. Ti man e`ebuttu. Matatitiye inagañg klaru na konsensian espiritun niha ineyag tininas.

Man-mahalañg ginefsagan antau na familia `nai motmut respetu yan inaguaiya. Dispues de finagpu` eskuela, sin ditension man-eyag propiu che`chu` famaguon. Gi lemlem tautau, man-o`mag, mañena, dispues `nai manmakoni` para iya siha.

Mit gracias gi Saina pot ha sedi famaguon-hu man-eyag sensi-an yine`ase` gi prohmun niha. Kontentuyu` ni mauleg na mañan niha gi otu tautau piot i man-na`mase`.

## What's really new at the border?

**A**gents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement are setting up interior check-points. Customs and Border Protection guards, emboldened by President Trump, have begun asking foreign visitors for their social-media usernames. That's one version of the news, anyway. The truth is that there were no checkpoints; and the social-media nonsense started under President Obama.

When it comes to immigration enforcement, just like everything else in American life right now, nervous systems are on red alert. So what the hell is actually going on?

One meta answer to that question is that most consumers of policy information are seeing it through the distorting lens of perceived political intentions. That is to say, if two (or three) presidents engage in the same activity, reaction to it will depend on whether or not people think the chief executive's heart is in the “right” place.

For good reason, immigration advocates assume that Trump's intentions are malevolent, leading many to the less-reasonable conclusion that each new screening procedure and executive order is breaking new ground in awfulness. “Soon it'll be ‘illegal criminals concentration camp,’” #Resistance leader Keith Olbermann warned us last week.

But so far, when it comes to ICE deportations, the material difference between Trump and his immediate predecessors amounts to a statistical rounding error, albeit one measured in disrupted lives. As Vox's Dara Lind put it in a helpful explainer, the latest roundups are both “fairly standard and newly terrifying.”

You have heard the individual horror stories, and they deserve your attention: the Mexican national arrested at an El Paso courthouse while trying to file a restraining order against her allegedly violent boyfriend; the woman who crossed north of the border at age 14, eventually gave birth to a U.S. citizen, and was greeted at her annual ICE check-in with a deportation order.

The recent raids, however, were planned before Trump had

lifted a finger on immigration policy, ICE Field Office Director for Los Angeles David Marin told reporters. And of the 161 people arrested in the California sweeps, “all but five would've been cases we would've prioritized for enforcement previously.”

Much of what Trump has done is set the immigration enforcement clock all the way back to 2013. The Secure Communities federal/local data-sharing program that Trump is exhuming was only shuttered by Obama at the end of 2014. The resumed collection of non-targeted “collateral” aliens during immigration raids was the norm well past the 2012 Democratic National Convention paeen to Dreamers.

Even Trump's announced intentions to prioritize the expulsion of “bad hombres” has echoes of Obama in both policy and rhetoric. As recently as 2015, the 44th president described his approach as “making sure that people who are dangerous, people who are gangbangers or criminals, that we're deporting them as quickly as possible, that we're focusing our resources there.” Trump is hardly the first resident of 1600 Pennsylvania to be tagged as the “deporter in chief.”

Observing these continuities is no mere exercise in What-aboutism. You cannot hope to rouse a winning defense against President Bad Intentions without grappling with the damage wrought by President Good Intentions. The fact is, starting with the 2006 collapse of comprehensive immigration reform, successive pro-reform administrations deliberately used stepped-up enforcement as a political tool—George W. Bush to call the bluff on restrictionists who derailed a treasured second-term goal, Obama to build up “credibility” for legislative negotiations that never took off.

When we give that much power and discretion to the president, and subject millions of lives to the passions of national politics, whimsical and arbitrary punishment will be the norm, not the exception.

### By MATT WELCH

Los Angeles Times



*Matt Welch is editor at large of Reason, a magazine published by the libertarian Reason Foundation, and a contributing writer to the Los Angeles Times' opinion section.*

By insisting that reform be “comprehensive,” advocates set themselves up to fail, partly because immigration policy is complicated, partly because Washington doesn't do anything big particularly well. By tethering every consideration of illegal residents to a citizenship pathway, Democrats aroused electorally motivated opposition. And by treating illegal immigration as a crime problem rather than a prohibition problem, Republicans nurtured the fantasy that if only they had a president with his heart in the right place, we could finally enforce this so-called crisis out of existence.

Instead of addressing the root cause of immigration illegality—a legal-visa regime out of whack with both supply and demand—legislators have punted the issue to an executive branch already swollen with authority. Courts have pruned back some of Trump's ambitions, but eventually the president will get good enough lawyers to get most of what he wants, and that includes fewer legal immigrants in most every category, and enforcement that aims to top even the records set by his predecessor.

It's good that Americans are becoming newly aware that the CBP maintains 170 or so internal immigration checkpoints within 100 miles of the border, and that residents without green cards experience dread with each trip to the airport. But this dysfunctional system was around long before Trump escalated into our lives, and unless we confront the problem honestly, it'll continue long after he's gone.

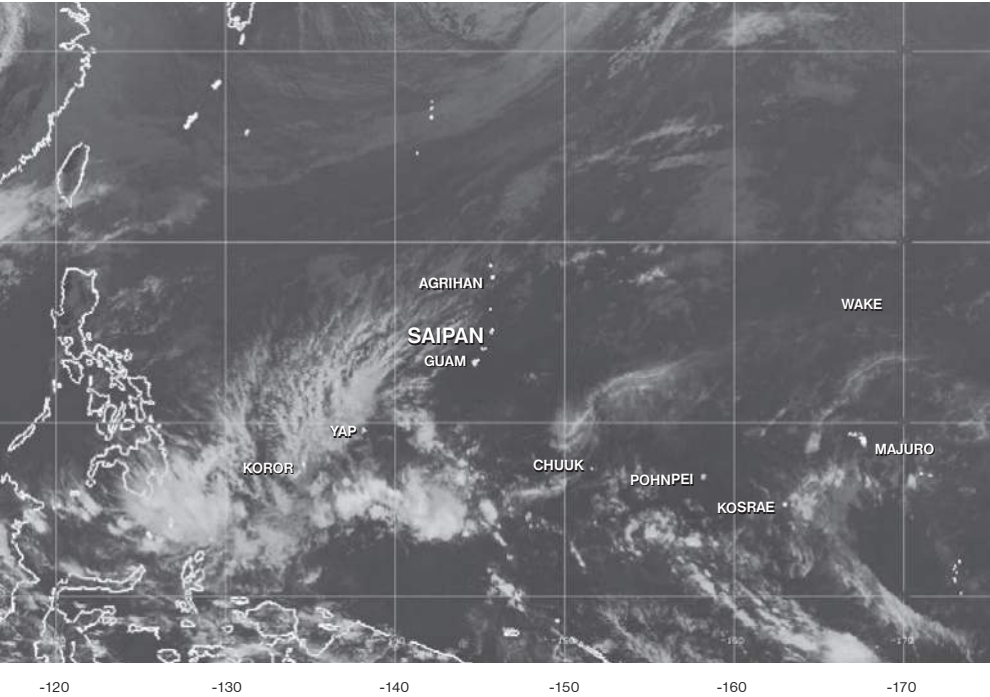


# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:30 AM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Rather dry trade-wind regime will continue through tonight. Moisture will increase a little for Wednesday, however the key word there is little. All this week showers will be no more than isolated. GFS and ECMWF-HiRes models were hinting at a monsoon trough forming in southern Micronesia. If this were to happen, then especially the second half of next week could see a more significant increase in moisture. Since this is February, that is a bit speculative, so nothing is in the forecast at this time.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Showers	83° / 77°	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°	
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	77° / 63°	
Beijing	Sunny	50° / 25°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	66° / 55°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	77° / 68°	
London	Cloudy	55° / 50°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	66° / 44°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 75°	
Melbourne	Windy	93° / 57°	
Miami	Showers	76° / 63°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	56° / 47°	
Osaka	Rain	57° / 37°	
Paris	Cloudy	54° / 46°	
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	48° / 28°	
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	59° / 45°	
Salem	Showers	74° / 56°	
San Francisco	Sunny	54° / 34°	
Seoul	Sunny	39° / 19°	
Tokyo	Rain	61° / 41°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	67° / 51°	



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:52 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.57	
10:58 AM	LOW TIDE	1.17	
4:01 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.67	
11:30 PM	LOW TIDE	0.02	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:38 AM	6:23 PM
Thursday	6:38 AM	6:23 PM
Friday	6:37 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:37 AM	6:24 PM
Sunday	6:36 AM	6:24 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:52 AM	2:32 PM	-
Thursday	3:41 AM	3:23 PM	-
Friday	4:30 AM	4:16 PM	-
Saturday	5:18 AM	5:10 PM	-
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:05 PM	-

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2017

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL297	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily
ZE582	4:25pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5

SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:50am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
UO43	1:40am	5:00am	1, 4, 6
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:20am	2:55pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
ZE581	10:15am	3:35pm	Daily
7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4

JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN			
7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6 via MNL
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, HX HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30AM	6:45AM	Daily	SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
			5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			



# United Airlines' New Spirit in the Sky takes flight

**CHICAGO**—A brand-new United Airlines plane pushed back from the gate with a new name: "New Spirit of United."

This aircraft is also the company's first Boeing 777-300ER featuring the United Polaris all-aisle access, lie-flat seat. It represents a commitment to the future and the commencement of an exciting new chapter for the company as it builds the best airline in the world.

"This aircraft symbolizes the new spirit, the energy and enthusiasm that I have seen in

our employees who take great pride in the work they are doing to take care of our customers and one another," said Oscar Munoz, chief executive officer of United Airlines. "The new 777-300ER fleet will play a crucial role in connecting our customers to far-away destinations and to the moments that matter most."

The "New Spirit of United" is exemplified by the significant progress the company made in operational reliability last year, achieving its best full-year on-time performance in

company history, the elevated customer experience and the completion of new agreements with every domestic unionized work group in 2016. As United Airlines continues to build on this momentum, this new aircraft serves as a symbol of the hard work, professionalism and dedication of the entire United team to its customers.

The aircraft started regularly scheduled service in February 2017. This is the first of 14 777-300ER aircraft United expects to place into service in 2017. *(United)*



## GHIS students are big winners at PGFC

In the last Primary Grade Forensic Competition held last Jan. 14, 2017, at Oleai Elementary School, students of Golden Harvest International Shool were big winners again.

### K-2 DIVISION

#### DI A:

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Steven Song

#### HI A:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Angelina Ye Ju

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Carlun Juliann Zapata

#### HI B:

1<sup>st</sup>: Vhonn Vincent Flandez

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Carlin Mei Santos

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Princess Nicole Rigua

#### RF MA:

5<sup>th</sup> place: Melodie Mae Epan

#### CH RF:

1<sup>st</sup> place: Gregorio Romolor

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Vhonn Vincent Flandez

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Terell Earl Hix

#### C SPK A:

4<sup>th</sup> place: Arthur Angel

Deliva, Gregorio Romolor, Dane Tibayan, Jan Alverne Santos

5<sup>th</sup> place: Sean Matthew Bam-

ba, Lucas Matthew Garon, Travix Hix Jr., Zian Michael Obnimag, Steven Song

#### C SPK B:

5<sup>th</sup> place: Terell Earl Hix, Andre Amour Zapata, Stephanie Joyce

Sevilla, Austyn Trasmano, Princess Nicole Rigua

### 3-5 DIVISION

#### CH RF:

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Quinn Thomas Palacios

5<sup>th</sup> place: Tamia Lei Hix

#### DUO A:

5<sup>th</sup> place: Jan Andrei Dumagan, Ezekiel Joson

#### DUO B:

4<sup>th</sup> place: Ernest Mikhail Licop, Tamia Lei Hix

**Coaches:** Belinda Acosta, Julcristener Venus, Jeanne Salcedo

**Judges:** Nestor Tam and Jocelyn Eusebio

**PGFC coordinator:** Imelda Bautista

## MCS HONOR ROLL

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the 2nd Quarter President's List and Honor Roll.

### PRESIDENT'S LIST

*Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.*

#### 1ST GRADE

Arriola, Janessa Francine T. Cabrera, Kimason

Camacho, Maiyah Michell

Demapan, Isabella Soledad

Doronila, Kevin Izrael

Ellama, John Matthew

Flores, Cassidee Jolina

Hwang, Katherine

Jiang, Jess

Larson, Kayla

Maratita, Francisco

Melchor, Remiegern

Mitchell, Gabriel Seth

Niric, Dylan

Palacios, Layla Carmen

Pangilinan, Cyril Michael

Quitugua, Aubrey Rae

Remilloza, Andrea F.

Sablan-Wilson, Liam

Sablan, Nick Jesse

Santos Aya

Sheu, Julius

Tagabuel, Arstin Itibwu

Tenorio, Naysa Bliss

Villagomez, Cecilia Ramon

#### 2ND GRADE

Ano, Wayne Dominic

Calvo, Michael

Castro, Christine R.

Castro, Thunder Alik

Catacutan, Cedric Earl

Concepcion, Jeffrey G.

Esguerra, Maria Loreen

Gragasin, Justin Andrei

Green-Petty, Payton

Guerrero, Patrick V. Jung, Maya Jae Lansangan, Leah Michel Matsumoto, Naomi Skye McQuay, Hope Melchor, Sarah Angela Pangilinan, Nicole Angela Propst, Kaden Christian Reyes, Frank Anthony Sasamoto, Enzo Umeki Sasamoto, Hiromi Rosa Sasamoto, Yukiko Kiyomi Sulyman, Shaminar Tenorio, Jose Clarence Torres, Jupri O. Tudela, Elle Brie Wesley, Aiden Manuel

#### 3RD GRADE

Atalig, Danika P. Backe, Asa Vanessa Bigalbal, Pauline Anne Buenaflor, Oscar Bien Camacho, Meagan Brylee Cruzana, Joaquin Ian Dela Santa, Heleyna Deleon Guerrero, Nyla Estella, Valerie Anne Jang, Sabina Javier, Lance Jericho Lansangan, Lexi Marie Maratita, Elise Divine Mareham, Laura Matsumoto, Ayanna Faith Mendoza, Mikaehla Paige Ogo, Therese Joy Pangelinan, Camron Z. Pangelinan, Joseph B. Pangelinan, Mya Pontiveros, Emmanuel Poon, Andrick Rabauliman, Sophia M. Santiago, Gavril Myles Takanobu, Kiyoshi Rudy Tenorio, Jessiana B. Travilla, Riana Joy

#### 4TH GRADE

Camacho, Irie Castro, Elialyn Q. Castro, Kenneth S.

Chae, Davina Chang, Jada Clark, Nathaniel Duenas, Quimarie L. Kautz, Claire Regina Lobo, Angelo Mallari, Audrein Jennifer Nicholas, Jalen Palacios, Tricia Santos, Dylan D. Sasamoto, Hitomi Rosa Saures, Crispin-Joseph Solis, Ranier Joy Taimanao, Aryana Carmen Taitano, Taylor Justine Tenorio, Malina Rose Toskas, Ari James

#### 5TH GRADE

Dayrit, Jenarisa M. Gamab, Gwen Tiffany Guerrero, Ruben Antonio Pangelinan, Destiny Propst, Devin Jordan Sablan, Andrew San Nicolas, Earle G. Torres, Avah Marie

#### 6TH GRADE

Albuen, Frnacine M. Baldazo, Keehara N. Cabrera, Kyla Monique Dela Cruz, Kina M. Galang, Raphael C. Green, Lynzey Valencia Hong, Eun Kyu Kiser, Renee Oh, Eric

Ortizo, Brent Matthew Palacios, Ryona E. Sasamoto, Yurihana Rosa

#### 7TH GRADE

Aldave, Lynette Bucalig, Fiona Cruz, Larry Dean Cruzana, Daphne Diaz, Jeremiah Jerome Schweiger, Theresa Rose Tenorio, Joshua Donovan Travilla Kaia

#### 8TH GRADE

Hunter, Brandee C. Mendoza, Mikee

#### 9TH GRADE

Borja, Kalea Lou Santos-Yamagata, Danielle J.

#### 10TH GRADE

Batusin, Aldwin Ray Bobadilla, Jan Emmanuel Castro, Rosa Engracia Chinen, Quincy Mikaela Cho, Hyo Lim Han, Louisa Sa Lee, Soe Yeon Leong, Giselle Ivy Macaranas, Dayna Lou Moran, Matt Jason Pangelinan, Rosalia Francine Ramirez, Reica Jucel Sato, Karen

#### 11TH GRADE

Kim, Min Jung Lim, Nathanael Melchor, Jeff Matthew Palacios, Michelle Torres, Cassidy Victoria Toskas, Jonelle Gwyneth Usi, Monica Aira Zheng, Theresa

#### 12TH GRADE

Camacho, Keona Chao, Shirley Minyi Cushing, Arron Deleon Guerrero, Zeno, Jr. Doctor, Jaqueline Han, Ya Higuchi, Kai Hunter, Brianna C. Jun, You Jin Lee, Eric Ortizo, Michael Roy Santos, Joshua Snodgrass, Nathaniel Travilla, Jan-Nasia J.

### HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of

3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

#### 1ST GRADE

Camacho, Gregory Manuel Chen, Jessis Deleon Guerrero, Kingston T. Devjani, Krishna Inos, Gabriella B. Sablan, Christopher

#### 2ND GRADE

Cabrera, Risha Camacho, Kesiil Choi, Sia Jin, Sarah Lee, Jai Lobo, Mikaela Jane McQuay, Maya Olopai, Jose Pedro T. Taisacan, Kandra Paige Tomokane, Pedro Jose Villagomez, Sage Ramon

#### 3RD GRADE

Aldan II, Jesse John Cabrera, Zion Jude Cepeda, Kahi Hayes, Alana Li, Min Manibusan, Luis Palacios, Leighton Reyes, Richard Zachary Takeda, Ma. Natsuko Tizon, Quince Emanuele Tomokane, Peige Morgan

#### 4TH GRADE

Cabrera, Margaret Lee, Jamie Mallari, Laizza Vianca Mariano, Nicole Erin Pamintuan, Manuel Patawaran, Breana Y. Reyes, Chelsy Anne Sablan, Kiana Cecilia Sablan, Aaliyah Victoria Silva, Maui Steele, Lyssa Rae Taisacan, Nevaeh Travilla, Arturo Rodrigo

Villegas, Kimberly

#### 5TH GRADE

Ano, Natalie Gabrielle Barcinas, Alicia Benavente, Ava Blanco, Elisa E. Bocago, Ranaisa Deleon Guerrero, Leland Lacap, Elisha Joy Mafnas, Breanna Sue Punzalan, Kaitlyn Reyes, Vicente Sulyman, Shamira Tolentino, Leyonne Alfred Torres, Maria Villegas, Miguel

#### 6TH GRADE

Borja, O'hane Cruz, Moeisha Eleanor Hunter, Brissa C. Lee, Ru Da Militante, Donnie James Muna, Breanna Muna, Sienna Jade Pangelinan, Manuel Jacinto Sablan, Matthew Adrian Sasamoto, Derek M. Sohn, John Taitano, Tyler Vaughn Torres, Kristan Rose Yumul, Railee

#### 7TH GRADE

Alvarez, Robin Kyle Ano, William Nathaniel Combinido, Jewel Duenas, Monique Laura Guerrero, Christian Felix Mafnas, Christopher A. Mallari, Vaughn Andrei Mendiola, Alleah Marie Muna, Devon Tyler Propst, Kiana Lei Sablan, Vidal Jose Sheu, Jeffrey Solis, Raesyl Gerard Steele, Richard Ramon Tenorio, Mariana

#### 8TH GRADE

Avendano-Woodruff, Katherine Colombo, Daniele Gatmaitan, Xavier Guerrero, Juan Edward Kang, Kevin Kim, Daehun Minami, William Kazuki Poon, Skyler Sablan, Penelope Salvador, Vince Philip

#### 9TH GRADE

Alcantara, Princess Ham, Jim Michael Javier, Lleyton A. Pak, Nicole Rabang, Katelyn

#### 10TH GRADE

Acosta, Ydylle Faye Aldan, Jaeleen Naomi Attao, Allysa Marie Bae, Seung Bin Camacho, Gary Irang, Maverick Deniel Jun, Angela Kiser, Eric Manese, Angelo Gabriel Ocampo, Justin Gerald Pangelinan, Joanna Marie Paraiso, Joanie Tabora, Earl Daivick Terlaje Maria Lael G.

#### 11TH GRADE

Mafnas, Shana Marie Mendiola, Erika Marie Mizuno, Asami Yun, Seok Jun

#### 12TH GRADE

Camacho, Eligiah Kim, Myeong Je Masga, John Diego Reyes, Karleen Rita Santos, Myles D. Sasamoto, Shannon Rae Xu, Xianodie (Rachel) Castro, Jose Antonio



Business

Bailout negotiators get go-ahead to return to Greece



AP  
A street vendor carries baskets as other pedestrians walk at a market area in Athens, Monday, Feb. 20, 2017. Greece remains dependent on bailout loans from its partners in the eurozone to pay its debts and protect it from bankruptcy and a potential exit from the euro.

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—Greece and its European creditors agreed Monday to resume talks on what economic reforms the country must make next in order to get the money it needs to avoid bankruptcy and a potential exit from the euro this summer.

The creditors also hinted that they would temper their demands for budget cuts—a welcome thought for auster-

ity-weary Greeks who have seen poverty and unemployment spike as their economy shrank by a quarter over the recent crisis-ridden years.

“There will be a change in the policy mix, if you will, moving perhaps away from austerity and putting more emphasis on deep reforms,” said Jeroen Dijsselbloem, the eurozone’s top official.

At face value, that means

fewer tax rises and spending cuts and deep reforms to the country’s tax system, pensions and labor laws.

Such reforms could help the economy and generate income that the Greek government can use to push for further growth—such as through tax cuts or even spending increases.

“There could be fiscal space for growth-enhancing mea-

sures,” Dijsselbloem said.

Easing up on austerity has been a key demand of Greek Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos. Greece’s left-wing government has lost a lot of support as it legislated for more austerity in return for the bailout cash—it’s about 15 percentage points behind the main opposition conservatives according to opinion polls.

Unilever shares slide after Kraft Heinz withdraws bid for \$143B

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Shares in Unilever, the owner of brands like Hellman’s, Lipton, and Knorr, are down sharply after rival Kraft Heinz withdrew a \$143 billion takeover offer.

The companies said Sunday in a joint press release that Kraft Heinz has “amicably” abandoned the offer.

Shares in Unilever slumped 6.5 percent on Monday to 41.91 euros in Amsterdam, one of the places they’re listed. They’d jumped 14 percent on Friday.

The deal would have combined Kraft Heinz products such as Oscar Mayer, Jell-O and Velveeta with Unilever’s stable of brands, which include food as well

as other consumer goods like Dove soap and Vaseline. The merged company would have rivaled Nestle as the world’s biggest packaged food maker by sales.

Analysts say Kraft Heinz, co-headquartered in Chicago and Pittsburgh, is still in the market for acquisitions. The fact that it bid for all of Unilever and not just its food business indicates that Kraft Heinz is potentially open to acquiring other packaged consumer goods, one analyst said.

Unilever, which has a head office in London and multiple stock listings, rejected the offer on Friday, but despite that, Kraft Heinz said at the time that it was still interested in the deal.

Uber to investigate sexual harassment claim by engineer

**LONDON** (AP)—Uber’s chief executive ordered an investigation Monday into a sexual-harassment claim made by a female engineer who said her prospects at the company evaporated after she complained about advances from her boss.

In a blog post about her year at Uber, Susan Fowler Rigetti said the company’s human resources department

ignored her complaints because her boss was a high performer.

CEO Travis Kalanick responded Monday on Twitter that he had instructed the ride-hailing app company’s chief human resources officer to look into Rigetti’s charges.

“What’s described here is abhorrent & against everything we believe in,”

Kalanick tweeted. “Anyone who behaves this way or thinks this is OK will be fired.”

The engineer, who goes alternately by Fowler or Rigetti online, said she joined Uber in November 2015 as a site-reliability engineer in San Francisco. She said that on her first official day on her team at Uber, her boss propositioned her in a string of mes-

sages on the company chat.

She took screen shots of the messages because they were “clearly out of line.”

“Upper management told me that he ‘was a high performer’ (i.e. had stellar performance reviews from his superiors) and they wouldn’t feel comfortable punishing him for what was probably just an innocent mistake on his part,” she wrote.



LEADING INDICATORS		
<b>DOW</b> 20,624.05 +4.28 0.02%	<b>S&amp;P</b> 2,351.16 +3.94 0.17%	<b>NASDAQ</b> 5,838.58 +23.68 0.41%

In U.S. dollar terms

EXCHANGE RATES		Hong Kong Dollar	0.9448	Russian Ruble	57.89
Australian Dollar	1.3039	Indian Rupee	67.03	Singapore Dollar	1.421
British Pound	0.8036	Japanese Yen	113.64	South Korean Won	1145.9
Canadian Dollar	1.3141	Malaysian Ringgit	4.4593	Swiss Franc	1.0057
Chinese Yuan	6.8833	New Zealand Dollar	1.3976	Taiwan Dollar	30.815
Euro	0.9448	Philippine Peso	50.29	Thailand Baht	30.815



# Nation

## Trump taps military strategist as national security adviser

**PALM BEACH, Fla.** (AP)—President Donald Trump has tapped Army Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster, a prominent military strategist known as a creative thinker, as his new national security adviser, replacing the ousted Michael Flynn.

Trump announced the pick Monday at his Palm Beach, Florida, club and said McMaster is “a man of tremendous talent and tremendous

experience.”

Sitting next to Trump for the announcement, McMaster said he was honored to take on the role and added that he looks forward to “doing everything that I can to advance and protect the interests of the American people.”

The president’s choice further elevates the influence of military officers in the new administration. Trump, who has no military or foreign

policy experience, has shown

a strong preference for putting generals in top roles. In this case, he tapped an active-duty officer for a post that’s sometimes used as a counterweight to the Pentagon. McMaster, who wore his uniform for the announcement, joins Defense Secretary Jim Mattis

and Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, both retired generals, in Trump’s inner circle of national security advisers.

The White House said Monday McMaster plans to remain on active military duty.

He will take on the challenge of leading a National Security Council that

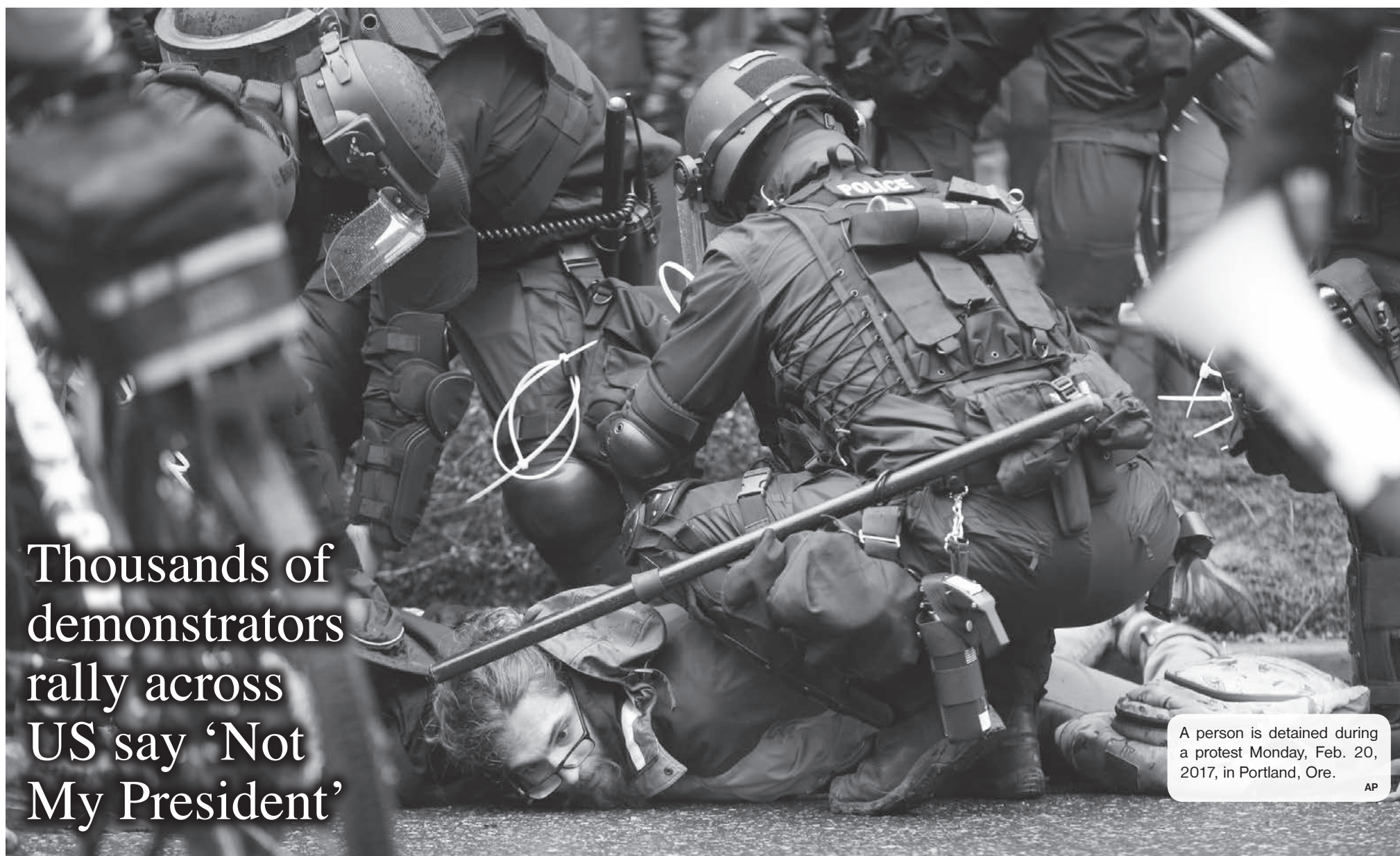
has not adjusted smoothly to Trump’s leadership. The president suggested he does not trust holdovers from the Obama administration and complained about leaks to reporters. His decision to put his top political adviser on the senior committee of the National Security Council drew sharp criticism. On Friday, the head of the council’s Western Hemisphere division was fired after he criti-

cized Trump’s policies and his inner circle of advisers.

Trump said Monday that retired Army Lt. Gen. Keith Kellogg, who had been his acting adviser, will now serve as the National Security Council chief of staff. He also said he would be asking John Bolton, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, to work with them in a “somewhat different capacity.”



McMaster



## Thousands of demonstrators rally across US say ‘Not My President’

A person is detained during a protest Monday, Feb. 20, 2017, in Portland, Ore.

AP

By **JULIE WALKER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands of demonstrators turned out Monday across the U.S. to challenge Donald Trump in a Presidents Day protest dubbed Not My President’s Day.

The events on the federal holiday didn’t draw nearly as many people as the million-plus who thronged the streets following the Republican president’s inauguration a month earlier, but the message was similar.

Thousands of flag-waving protesters lined up outside Central Park in Manhattan. Many in the crowd chanted “No ban, no wall. The Trump regime has got to fall.” They held aloft signs saying “Uphold the Constitution Now” and “Impeach the Liar.”

A rally in downtown Los Angeles also drew thousands. Demonstrators there called attention to Trump’s crackdown on immigration and his party’s response to climate change and the environment. Organizers said they chose to rally on the holiday as a way to honor past presidents by exercising their constitutional right to assemble and peacefully protest.

In Chicago, several hundred rallied across the river from the Trump Tower, shouting “Hey, hey, ho, ho, Donald Trump has got to go.”

Rebecca Wolfram of Chicago, who’s in her 60s, said concerns about climate change and immigrant rights under Trump prompted her to start attending rallies.

“I’m trying to demonstrate as much as possible until I fig-

ure out what else to do,” said Wolfram, who held a sign that said “Old white ladies are really displeased.”

Several hundred demonstrated in Washington, D.C. Dozens gathered around the fountain in Dupont Circle chanting “Dump Trump” and “Love, not hate: That’s what makes America great.”

Dozens marched through midtown Atlanta for a rally named with a Georgia flavor: “ImPEACH NOW! (Not My) President’s Day March.”

Hundreds of protesters chanting “This is what democracy looks like” marched through Salt Lake City.

The Salt Lake Tribune reports (<http://bit.ly/2kFqWIG>) that the crowd marched to push back against Trump and his administration’s stance

on such issues as the environment, immigration, free speech and Russia.

Some people raised signs that said “Not My Presi-

dent,” while others held up a large American flag. Protester Reg Brookings warned the crowd that Trump is trying to divide the country by

making such groups as immigrants the enemy.

A small but unruly group of protesters faced off with police in downtown Portland, Oregon.

## Trump tries to move past controversies, toward legislating

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—As President Donald Trump begins his second month in office, his team is trying to move past the crush of controversies that overtook his first month and make progress on health care and tax overhauls long sought by Republicans.

Both issues thrust Trump, a real estate executive who has never held elected office, into the unfamiliar world of legislating. The president has thus far relied exclusively on executive powers to muscle through policy priorities and

has offered few details about what he’ll require in any final legislative packages, like how the proposals should be paid for. The White House also sent conflicting signals about whether the president will send Congress his own legislative blueprints or let lawmakers drive the process.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus told The Associated Press that he expects a health care plan to emerge in “the first few days of March.” Pressed on whether the plan would be coming from the

White House, Priebus said, “We don’t work in a vacuum.”

On Sunday, White House advisers held a three-hour meeting on health care at Trump’s South Florida club, their third lengthy discussion on the topic in four days. Gary Cohn, the former Goldman Sachs banker now serving as Trump’s top economic adviser, and newly sworn in Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin have been leading talks with Republican lawmakers and business leaders on taxes. Neither man has prior government experience.



## Asia

## Death toll in PH bus crash climbs to 15

**TANAY, Philippines (AP)**—The death toll has risen to 15 from a bus crash in the Philippines, officials said Tuesday, and could climb further as many of the nearly 50 others who were hurt in the accident are in serious condition.

Most of the dead and injured were college students on the way to a camping trip on Monday when the brakes on their chartered bus apparently failed on a steep downhill road. The out-of-control bus then smashed into an electric post, shearing off most of its roof.

Berlito Bati Jr., a disaster-response officer in Tanay town in Rizal province east of Manila, where the accident happened, said the dead included the driver and a professor.

He said the latest victim died late Monday. There were 62 people on board, although bus manifest listed only 58, Bati said.

The impact of the crash was so strong it ripped off a large chunk of the roof of the bus and scattered the victims' belongings, including a stuffed toy and shoes.

The students, mostly taking computer courses, were less than 30 minutes from their destination when the crash occurred, he said.

Some of the survivors said they smelled burning rubber before the brakes of the bus apparently failed. Some stu-



AP  
Police investigators walks beside the wreckage of a bus that crashed on a downhill road in Tanay, Rizal province, east of Manila, Philippines, Monday, Feb. 20, 2017.

dents screamed in panic as the bus went out of control.

On Tuesday morning, a priest blessed the bus and the site of the accident and led relatives of the dead in prayers.

The bus was one of several vehicles transporting hundreds of college students to a camping resort when the accident happened in Tanay, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) east of Manila.

## N. Korean envoy blasts Malaysians, calls for joint probe

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)**—North Korea's ambassador to Malaysia on Monday denounced the country's investigation into the death of the exiled half brother of North Korea's ruler, calling it politically motivated and demanding a joint probe amid increasingly bitter exchanges between the once-friendly nations.

Malaysia responded with its own accusations, with a foreign ministry statement saying the ambassador's comments were "culled from delusions, lies and half-truths." Earlier Monday, Malaysia said it was recalling its ambassador to Pyongyang.

The diplomatic spat comes in the wake of the death last week of Kim Jong Nam, who died after apparently being poisoned in the Kuala Lumpur airport.

The attack spiraled into diplomatic fury when Malaysia refused to hand over Kim's corpse to North Korean diplomats and proceeded with at least one autopsy over

the diplomats' objections.

"The investigation by the Malaysian police is not for the clarification of the cause of the death and search for the suspect, but it is out of the political aim," North Korean Ambassador Kang Chol told reporters Monday, saying Malaysia was in collusion with South Korea, as Seoul tries to deflect attention from its own months-long political crisis.

Police "pinned the suspicion on us, and targeted the investigation against us," Kang said, calling on Malaysia to work with North Korea in a joint investigation. Kang referred to the dead man as "Kim Chol," the name on the passport found with Kim Jong Nam.

Malaysia Prime Minister Najib Razak told reporters later Monday that he had confidence in the objectivity of his country's police and doctors.

Malaysia had no reason to "paint the North Koreans in a bad light," he said, adding,

"We expect them to understand that we apply the rule of law in Malaysia."

Over the weekend, Kang said Malaysia may be "trying to conceal something," an accusation that led the Malaysian foreign ministry to recall its ambassador to Pyongyang "for consultations" and summon Kang to a meeting.

Police have so far arrested four people carrying identity documents from North Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam. Those arrested include two women who were allegedly seen approaching Kim on Feb. 13 as he stood at a ticketing kiosk at the budget terminal of the Kuala Lumpur airport.

Surveillance video, obtained by Japan's Fuji TV and often grainy and blurred, seems to show the two women approaching Kim Jong Nam from different directions that morning. One comes up behind him and appears to hold something over his mouth for a few seconds.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

## Philippines: Vietnamese ship attacked; 1 dead, 6 abducted

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Gunmen attacked a Vietnamese cargo ship off the Philippines' southern tip, killing a Vietnamese crewman and abducting six others including the vessel's captain, the Philippine coast guard said Monday. Coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo said the Vietnamese coast guard reported that the MV *Giang Hai*, with 17 crewmen on board, was attacked by pirates Sunday night about 20 miles (31 kilometers) north of Pearl Bank in Tawi-Tawi, the Philippines' southernmost province. Personnel of the Philippine coast guard, police and marines found the ship had drifted near the province's Baguan Island. Upon boarding the vessel, they found 10 Vietnamese sailors alive and one dead. Pham Van Hien, head of the safety department of Pham Hai shipping company, the owner of the cargo ship based in Vietnam's northern port city of Hai Phong, said the captain was among those abducted.

The attack occurred while the vessel was transporting 4,500 tons of cement from Indonesia to the Philippines, he said.

## Plane carrying 5 people hits Australian shopping mall

**MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)**—Five people were believed killed when a light plane crashed in flames into a shopping mall on Tuesday in the Australian city of Melbourne, officials said. The five were on a twin-engine Beechcraft Super King Air that crashed about 45 minutes before the Direct Factory Outlet mall in suburban Essendon was to open, Police Minister Lisa Neville said. The U.S. Embassy in Canberra would not comment on a report that the passengers were U.S. citizens, but said it was working with local authorities. "We extend our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of all those who died in today's tragic crash," an embassy statement said. "We are unable to confirm any details about the nationality or identity of any of the victims. The U.S. Embassy in Canberra and the consulate

in Melbourne are working closely with local authorities to assist in any way possible," it said.

## Nepal sets much-delayed village and municipal polls for May

**KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)**—Nepal's government announced Monday that much-delayed but crucial elections for village councils and towns will be held in May, the first such polls in two decades. Forest Minister Shanker Bhandari said the Cabinet decided that elections for village and town posts would be held on a single day, and that the government is hopeful that people who oppose the polls will also participate. Ethnic groups in southern Nepal have insisted that the elections should only be held after the constitution adopted in 2015 is amended, and have threatened to disrupt the voting. The United Democratic Madhesi Front said it would protest the government decision starting Tuesday. The last election for the local posts was held in 1997, and successive governments have been unable to hold new polls.



# World

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—U.S. Vice President Mike Pence on Monday vowed to stand with the European Union and the NATO military alliance, but was met with some skepticism from leaders shaken by President Donald Trump's more critical comments.

European Union Council President Donald Tusk said he had "open and frank talks" with Pence and that the bloc would watch closely to ensure the U.S. acts on its words of support.

"I heard words which are promising for the future, words which explain a lot about the new approach in Washington," Tusk said.

"Too many new and sometimes surprising opinions have been voiced over this time about our relations—and our common security—for us to pretend that everything is as it used to be," he said, adding that Europe was counting on the United States' "wholehearted and unequivocal" support.

Tusk added, "Both Europeans and Americans must simply practice what they preach."

Trump's benevolence toward Russian President Vladimir Putin and campaign rhetoric that included branding NATO obsolete and vowing to undo a series of multinational trade deals has sparked anxiety in Europe. Trump was also supportive of Britain's vote last year to leave the 28-nation EU, a withdrawal known as Brexit. And he has suggested



United States Vice President Mike Pence, left, and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg address a media conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels on Monday, Feb. 20, 2017. AP

## Pence tries to reassure European leaders SHAKEN BY TRUMP

that the EU itself could soon fall apart.

In a visit Brussels, Pence said Trump had asked him "to express the strong commitment of the United States to continued cooperation and partnership with the European Union."

After talks with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, Pence reiterated the administration's strong support for the alliance, but warned

that Trump wants to see "real progress" by the end of the year on boosting defense spending.

NATO leaders agreed in 2014 that alliance members needed to start spending at least 2 percent of their gross domestic product by 2024. Only five nations currently do so: the United States, Britain, Poland, Estonia and Greece.

"The truth is many others, including some of our large-

est allies, still lack a clear and credible path to meet this minimum goal," Pence said.

Asked what the administration would do if allies failed to meet the defense spending target, Pence said, "I don't know what the answer is to 'or else,' but I know that the patience of the American people will not endure forever."

Pence's meetings in Brussels were aimed at assuring European leaders that his words re-

flected the views of Trump and would not easily be swept away at the whim of the U.S. president or undermined by statements issued on Twitter.

Pence, as he did in an address Saturday at the Munich Security Conference, also said Trump would demand that Russia honor its commitments to end the fighting in Ukraine.

"In the interest of peace and in the interest of innocent human lives, we hope

and pray that this cease-fire takes hold," he said.

The vice president also noted the "heartbreaking" suicide bombings at the Brussels airport and subway system in March 2016, and said the U.S. would continue to collaborate with EU partners to address safety and combat terrorism.

"The United States' commitment to the European Union is steadfast and enduring," he said.

## Iraqi troops advance on western Mosul as Mattis holds talks

**SOUTH OF MOSUL, Iraq** (AP)—Iraqi forces advanced Monday into the southern outskirts of Mosul on the second day of a push to drive Islamic State militants from the city's western half, as the visiting U.S. defense secretary met with officials to discuss the fight against the extremists.

With aerial support from the U.S.-led coalition, Iraqi police and army troops launched the offensive Sunday, part of a 100-day-old

campaign that has already driven the militants from the eastern half of the city.

Iraqi helicopters fired rockets at the village of Abu Saif early Monday, targeting a hill that overlooks the city's airport. By noon, the forces entered the village and gained control over much of the strategic hill as fighting was still raging.

Separately, militarized police in armored vehicles were moving toward the sprawling Gha-

zlani military base on the southwestern outskirts of the city.

A U.S.-led coalition has been providing close air support throughout the campaign to retake Iraq's second-largest city. U.S. special operations forces are embedded with some Iraqi units and thousands of U.S. troops are in Iraq providing logistical and other support.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Jim Mattis was holding discussions with U.S. and Iraqi officials, a week before

he is expected to present a new strategy to President Donald Trump for defeating the Islamic State group.

"We're going to make certain that we've got good situational awareness of what we face as we work together and fight alongside each other," Mattis told reporters traveling with him.

Trump has repeatedly vowed to eliminate the extremist group but has provided few details about how his ap-

proach might differ from that of the Obama administration, which had partnered with Syrian and Iraqi forces to drive IS out of several towns and cities.

The battle for western Mosul, the extremist group's last major urban bastion in Iraq, is expected to be the most daunting yet.

The streets are older and narrower in that sector of the city, which stretches west from the Tigris River, forcing Iraqi soldiers to leave the relative safety of their armored vehicles. The presence of up to 750,000 civilians also poses a challenge.

Two suicide car bombers struck army and paramilitary forces west of Mosul on Monday, killing and wounding a number of troops, two army officers said, without specifying the number of casualties. A third suicide car bomber was blown up before reaching the troops, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

IS claimed responsibility for two attacks in an online statement, saying the attackers were British and Iraqi.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### 7 killed in airstrikes on Syrian capital

**BEIRUT** (AP)—Airstrikes in the Syrian capital, Damascus, left at least seven people dead Monday as activists reported a third straight day of escalations by pro-government forces against opposition-held areas inside and around the capital. Jets believed to belong to the Russian or Syrian Air Forces pounded the Barzeh and Qaboun neighborhoods in the northeast corner of the capital, leveling several buildings, and also wounded at least

12 people, the activist-run Barzeh Media Center and Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. The side-by-side Barzeh, Qaboun, and Tishreen neighborhoods form one of the last two footholds of the Syrian opposition inside the Damascus city limits.

#### Montenegro accuses Russia over alleged coup plot

**PODGORICA, Montenegro** (AP)—Montenegro's special prosecutor has accused Russia

and its secret service operatives of plotting an election-day coup attempt that included plans to kill the small Balkan country's former prime minister. Prosecutor Milivoje Katnic said an investigation into the alleged plot last October to overthrow Montenegro's government and prevent it from joining NATO has shown "that Russian state bodies were involved at a certain level." Speaking in a conference call on Monday, Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, denied

the claim as "absurd" and "irresponsible." "There can't be even talk about any sort of Russian officials' interference into Montenegro's internal affairs," Peskov said. "Russia hasn't interfered and isn't going to interfere into domestic affairs of other countries, and in particular Montenegro with which we have very good relations."

#### North African diplomats seek solutions for chaotic Libya

**TUNIS, Tunisia** (AP)—The

presidents of Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia will hold a summit soon to try to find ways to reconcile neighboring Libya's rival political factions and stem the country's chaos, diplomats said Monday. The summit was announced in Tunis after a new round of diplomatic efforts for Libya, where two rival administrations are jockeying for power and where the Islamic State group and other extremists have prospered amid the political vacuum. Libya's neighbors are highly

concerned about spillover of extremist violence. Diplomats meeting in Tunis released a statement declaring their "attachment to Libya's sovereignty and territorial integrity," arguing against foreign intervention or any military solution to Libya's crisis. U.S. warplanes have conducted airstrikes on suspected extremists in Libya, which hasn't emerged from chaos since the killing of Muammar Gadhafi in a 2011 uprising and ensuing civil war.



# Focus

This 2015 file photo provided by the Bloomington Normal Airport Authority shows a damaged wing of a Cirrus SR22 single-engine plane at the Central Illinois Regional Airport in Bloomington, Ill. Once seen as a luxury of the corporate world, private planes are becoming increasingly common at U.S. colleges and universities as schools try to attract athletes, raise money and reward coaches with jet-set vacations. Iowa State University President Steven Leath, a pilot, acknowledged last year that he used a school plane for trips that mixed personal and university business, a practice that came to light after he damaged the aircraft in a hard landing.

AP



## Flying coach: Many universities are using private planes

By COLLIN BINKLEY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**BOSTON (AP)**—Once seen as a luxury of the corporate world, private planes are becoming increasingly common at U.S. colleges and universities as schools try to attract athletes, raise money and reward coaches with jet-set vacations.

Some schools spend millions of dollars a year flying their coaches and executives on scores of trips around the country, and some pass the cost on to students and taxpayers.

The Associated Press requested documents from dozens of public universities and found that at least 20 own or share ownership of planes for school business, often employing a few full-time pilots to fly them. Many others charter private flights through outside companies.

Flight logs show that, at times, the aircraft are used for purposes unrelated to university business.

At Ohio State University, which leases one plane and partly owns another, football coach Urban Meyer and members of his family took 11 personal trips last school year, including a vacation in Florida, a weekend getaway to Cape Cod and a spring break

in South Carolina. The university's cost: \$120,000. Add Meyer's 15 recruiting trips in the same planes during that period, and the price tag jumps to more than \$350,000.

Meyer declined to comment.

Some private colleges, which aren't subject to open-records laws, also own planes.

Colleges defend the costs, saying coaches and top administrators need to travel more than ever, while commercial airlines are offering fewer flights. Some say it's economical for officials who often fly on short notice or to towns that are far from a major airport.

But some critics condemn such spending as a luxury at a time when tuition continues to rise.

"The students are paying for it or the taxpayers are paying for it, and it's usually the students," said Richard Vedder, an economist and director of the Center for College Affordability and Productivity in Washington, D.C.

Universities often use planes for athletic recruiting, mostly football and basketball, and to shuttle administrators on trips to woo donors or lobby lawmakers.

Some of the nation's largest schools, such as Penn State and the University of Texas, own planes, as do

many smaller schools, including the University of Wyoming and the University of Central Missouri.

The price for a private plane usually reaches into the millions, climbing as high as the \$8.4 million that the University of Florida's athletic association paid for an eight-passenger jet in 2011. Then there are operating expenses such as fuel and maintenance, which at Ohio State cost \$1.6 million last school year.

Each flight often averages more than \$1,000 an hour, far exceeding the cost of a commercial flight.

Purdue University, for example, sent a plane to Providence, Rhode Island, last year to bring alumnus and former NFL lineman Matt Light to Indianapolis for an athletics meeting and then flew him back, at a cost of \$15,000. A commercial flight between those cities typically costs less than \$400 round-trip.

The University of Kansas chancellor and two staff members were flown to the NCAA basketball tournament in Louisville, Kentucky, for \$10,000 last year. Officials at the University of Tennessee routinely fly between Knoxville and Nashville, a drive of less than three hours.

"With our executive administration, their time is valuable

enough that certainly the plane use is warranted," said Ron Maples, interim treasurer for the University of Tennessee. He added that the school's yearly spending on flights, about \$700,000, is "hardly a blip" in the overall budget.

Costs for chartered flights can add up fast, too. The University of Minnesota doesn't own a plane but spent \$2.9 million chartering flights last year.

To some critics, big spending on airplanes is fine as long as taxpayers don't foot the bill. And some schools, including Ohio State, say private donations and athletic revenue pay for flights. But at many, such as Kansas and Tennessee, they are covered by budgets that include tuition and tax dollars.

"If they're being funded by taxpayers at all, it falls outside the lines of what's proper and ethical in my opinion," said Lawrence McQuillan, a senior fellow at the Independent Institute, a conservative think tank in Oakland, California. "Some of this is just personal vacations, which to me is completely improper for taxpayers to fund."

Private flights have also become a perk used to draw coveted coaches. At the University of Oklahoma and Ohio State, among many others, top coaches and their

families are given yearly shares of flight hours that can be used for vacations and other personal trips.

Three coaches at Ohio State topped \$220,000 in personal trips last school year, records show, with destinations including Las Vegas and Marco Island, Florida.

"It's where the market is now from a compensation standpoint," said Martin Jarmond, the executive associate athletic director at Ohio State. "Coaches have families, too. They've got ballgames they need to get back for. They have important things they need to do outside of the job."

Colleges say they regularly audit their flight records to monitor for misuse, but some shield travel information from the public.

At the University of South Florida, spokeswoman Lara Wade said the flight logs for the plane the school uses do not have to be released because the aircraft is owned by an outside company.

Penn State said it owns two planes used by senior officials but would not provide records because the school is mostly exempt from the state's public disclosure laws.

"Many universities, including those within the Big Ten, have planes," Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Pow-

ers said in a statement. "It is not uncommon for major research universities with a statewide, national and international profile."

As some colleges add planes, others are scaling back or reconsidering their flight programs.

Last year, the University of Minnesota found that men's basketball coach Richard Pitino had overspent his budget for chartered flights by more than \$200,000 over three years. Since then, the school has hired a new athletic director whose job will partly be to rein in the budget.

Iowa State University President Steven Leath, a pilot, acknowledged last year that he used a school plane for trips that mixed personal and university business, a practice that came to light after he damaged the aircraft in a hard landing. Iowa State has decided to sell one plane and is reviewing whether to continue using another.

Other schools say they simply have little need for private planes. The University of California at Los Angeles sometimes charters flights for sports teams, but not for recruiting or for executive travel.

"Purchasing a private airplane does not best serve our student-athletes," spokesman Tod Tamberg said.



# Good Housekeeping

## 'Dog Whisperer' Cesar Millan on why Americans have so many problems with their dogs

By NINA METZ  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

**CHICAGO**—When I sat down with Cesar Millan recently, he had just finished a speaking event in town. I asked how it went. "In other places, you get the feeling you don't belong," he said, "so it can be challenging to deliver this message in places like Los Angeles or New York." That message? In almost every case, it is you, not your dog, that's the problem.

Millan, who spent the first pivotal years of his life on a farm in rural Mexico, initially gained prominence as a dog behaviorist with his television show "Dog Whisperer." It ran for nine seasons and remains in constant rotation on Nat Geo Wild, where his newest show, "Dog Nation," premieres March 3 and includes a segment shot in Chicago, where he and his son and co-host, Andre, help to open a dog park on the Southeast Side.

"I like the feeling here," Millan said of Chicago. "It's very earthy, very grounded."

I asked what he meant. "You can speak to Chicagoans as if you know them, versus other places where you have to be careful with what you say — you have to massage everybody, you know what I mean? You can't get straight to the point. Here I can speak 'me.'"

Halfway through our conversation, the 3-year-old Pomeranian named Benson that had accompanied him on the trip jumped on the couch where I was sitting. I beckoned him over, and he gingerly stepped over my tote bag and then snuggled in tight against my thigh, where he remained for the duration of the interview, while I scratched his ears. Charm offensive complete.

Millan has a new book as well, called "Cesar Millan's Lessons From the Pack," and it is structured as a collection of stories about the dogs that have shaped his outlook on life. "The new book is about really understanding how dogs view the world," he said. But it is also an unexpectedly forthcoming memoir that offers a glimpse into areas of his personal life rarely seen on his television shows, including the dissolution of his marriage and how he climbed out of his depression in the aftermath.

Over the course of an hour, I spoke with Millan about why Americans are so mixed up when it comes to dogs, the value of immigrants and why

it's OK to let your dog sleep in your bed.

The following is an edited transcript.

**Q: It sounds like you're drawn to Chicago. Have you ever considered living somewhere other than Los Angeles?**

**A:** I don't spend a lot of time in Los Angeles because I'm traveling for work, but I've learned about real estate — that if you buy a property in LA, it's an investment that will always grow. You learn those things that me, as an immigrant, would never even think of before. You learn that American-focus way. We learn a lot, as immigrants, about the focus in America.

But Americans have problems with dogs.

**Q: Do you have theories? Why is this a particularly American problem?**

**A:** Well, No. 1, America doesn't have problems, it creates problems. In Third World countries, there's no food, no water, no doctors. There isn't a leadership you can count on. And even though people disagree with a lot of American leadership, it's still way better than any other leadership in other countries. So the fact that you have the right to be heard, to protest (short laugh of amazement) — this is huge. You feel heard. You feel human. You feel you have rights. You have a lot of rights, a lot of really good rights.

**Q: So how does that make people interact differently with their dogs?**

**A:** The formula is: Exercise, discipline, affection. Or: Body, mind, heart. But my clients do: Affection, affection, affection. And by doing that, they're focusing on their needs only, and unconsciously they enter into a very selfish fulfillment in that relationship and only one side gets the benefit. So man's best friend becomes a very unstable friend — and this unstable friend, a lot of the time, is brought into a shelter because he doesn't behave the way you thought he should. But you don't realize that you made him that way. When he was a puppy, he had no issues.

**Q: Why is that an American thing?**

**A:** It's a modern thing. The modern world — so Europe, the U.K. Anybody that has some sort of money is going to have those problems. Third World countries, people don't have problems with dogs.

No. 1, nobody has leashes on their dogs. You see dogs in the streets and people think, "Oh God!" but those dogs get



Cesar Millan, the Dog Whisperer, with one of his dogs Monday, Feb. 13, 2017 at the Union League in Chicago.

to have a normal life, meaning they use their own way of learning about life and they're not dictated by walls or when the human is going to walk them. So, yes, they're skinny, but they don't have psychological problems.

American dogs are chunky, so I get to have a good show — from a business perspective, it's a perfect world! I can do a TV show forever.

You know, people come to the United States because of opportunities, and opportunities lead you to money — and to chasing money. That's one great thing about America — the fact that everybody wants more and more and more, it generates an energy. It's what helps the economy grow.

The only thing about America is, America needs to learn to calm down. I don't have to teach American people to be confident. But America doesn't know how to be calm, so that transfers to the dogs.

**Q: Do you feel more Mexican or American? Or equal parts Mexican and American?**

**A:** I think I'm a combination of two things. For me, Mexico is Mother — that's where I learned instincts and spirituality and tradition. And the United States for me is the place where I understood emotions. America gave me access to being able to cry. Because here, it's OK for a man to be in touch with his emotional side. In Mexico, that's almost forbidden. As a man, they make you suppress emotion. And in a relationship, that can come across as harsh. That's why dogs were so therapeutic for me because I was able to be emotional with them. I was able to be me.

**Q: In the book you talk about how you have a relatively small "at home" pack**

**right now. Why so few dogs?**

**A:** My life changed. It went from 65 dogs when I started —

**Q: Wait, 65? In your home?**

**A:** Yes! I didn't have the Dog Psychology Center at that time. When I started my profession, I had an Astrovan and that was my mobile kennel. So half of the dogs would be in there, half would be in the apartment with me. I had to be creative; I was married with a kid at that point — with 65 dogs.

I used to charge \$10 per dog, which is nothing, but I was illegal at that time so I couldn't raise the price. Half of the dogs were rescues, half were paying clients, so it was karma bank and U.S. bank. Those rescues all found homes. It was only later that I opened my first Dog Psychology Center in South Central LA, which is the 'hood.

**Q: I loved that place (seen on episodes of "Dog Whisperer"). You made it look so peaceful and inviting. It was like a Zen garden for dogs.**

**A:** Made from trash, by the way. Everything you saw, everything was made from trash. That's creativity, and that also has to do with coming from a Third World country — we recycle everything. We can't afford to throw things away.

**Q: You really are the quintessential immigrant story. Does it feel uncomfortable right now, living in a world where immigrants aren't being celebrated?**

**A:** Look, I talk about rules, boundaries and limitations, and 100 percent I understand that whenever you go to another part of the world, you have to go through immigration.

But what's happening right now, we also have to remember that immigrants are human and we're all looking for op-

portunity. We have an amazing creativity and this positive energy to offer. And we have this high level of gratitude — when you give a job to somebody that is so grateful, that touches your heart, not just your wallet. So being an immigrant comes with a lot of great things that are needed, because the world has become so cold, so distrusting.

So I understand why it's important to follow rules. But we also have to keep our minds open. I'm a perfect example of making a difference in a country. I'm an awesome taxpayer. (Laughs) I created a profession that didn't exist, so that's creativity.

**Q: You talk in the book about crossing the Rio Grande illegally ...**

**A:** Uh-huh, yeah.

**Q: If there was a wall, that probably wouldn't have happened.**

**A:** Listen, you can build a wall from here to the sky. Necessity is the mother of invention. Somebody will find a way. It won't be as easy, but it's not impossible.

You know, when you grow up in the bottom of the pack, as I call it, your dreams are big and powerful. When you grow up in a place where you don't have to dream, where you don't have to pray so much, you become comfortable. So it's really important, that immigrant energy — when people come here, they come with that desire. Yes, they are illegal, but they are still emigrating from another place, and it brings a different vibe and a different energy. It's part of growth.

**Q: Was it difficult for you to become a citizen because you did not come legally?**

**A:** No, what was difficult for me was the marriage.

**Q: Oh, right, your ex-wife is a U.S. citizen — that's how you got your citizenship.**

**A:** That's right — but that's not why we got married! (In the book he talks about getting married after his ex-wife unexpectedly became pregnant with Andre.)

**Q: OK, here's the most important question of the interview: Do you let your dogs sleep in the bed with you?**

**A:** (Firmly) Yes. And I'm glad you asked me that question because that's a big misunderstanding. There's nothing wrong with inviting your dog onto the couch or your bed. You don't see it in Third World countries because you sleep on the floor or on hammocks, and dogs

don't like hammocks. On the farms, they're not even allowed inside.

But about the bed, think about it this way: It's inviting versus invading. When a dog does it on his own, then he is going to choose where to sit, and if you try to move him, you get (makes a growling sound) — that's because he claimed it. So, you get in the bed first. Have the dog wait, and then invite him.

**Q: How many dogs are in your bed?**

**A:** All of them. It's Junior (Millan's blue pit bull and a regular fixture on his shows) — he sleeps down by the corner because (whispers) he farts — and three little dogs. The reason that's my pack right now is that people need to see a pit bull with little dogs. If you have all pit bulls, people think, "Oh, they're going to kill somebody." You know what I mean? It's an immediate different label. If I had six pit bulls, it doesn't give the same PR than if I have three little dogs and one pit bull and people see, "Oh my God, he's not killing them!"

I also want to talk about another thing: greeting your dog. You're coming from the outside world, you've been gone all day, so you need to practice no touch, no talk, no eye contact. Let the dog calm down, then you give affection. Most people do this, "Oh, puppy! Haha! Hello!" but you'll get chaos. Do you understand what I mean about the greeting?

**Q: Yes! Didn't you notice I didn't even acknowledge Benson when I came in the room?**

**A:** But you did acknowledge him, that's what people don't understand. You didn't do a human type of greeting, but that doesn't mean you're not acknowledging him! The fact that you let him smell you and feel your calm energy, that's allowing them to greet you the way they know how.

If people just understood those two things, the inviting versus invading, and calm versus excitement ...

**Q: Why is Benson the dog that you brought with you on this trip?**

**A:** Because he loves the cold! Look at all that fur! Junior is not a Chicago guy right now. It's too cold.

**Q: How do you travel when you have your dogs with you? By car? Or did Benson go on the plane with you?**

**A:** Even Junior goes on the plane. In his own seat. These are Hollywood dogs, we're legal here!



## Life & Style

# Conservative group cancels speech by Yiannopoulos

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos has been disinvented to this year's Conservative Political Action Conference after his attempt to clarify past comments on relationships between boys and older men fell flat with organizers.

Hours later, his publisher cancelled his book "Dangerous," which had been scheduled to come out in June.

The American Conservative Union founded and hosts CPAC, which is being held Wednesday through Saturday outside Washington. In a tweet on Monday, ACU chairman Matt Schlapp said that "due to the revelation of an offensive video in the past 24 hours condoning pedophilia, the American Conservative Union has decided to rescind the invitation of Milo Yiannopoulos to speak."

After the polarizing Breitbart News editor was invited, his invitation sparked a backlash. The conservative Reagan Battalion blog tweeted video clips Sunday in which Yiannopoulos discussed Jews, sexual consent, statutory rape, child abuse and homosexuality.

In one clip, Yiannopoulos defends sexual relationships between men and boys as young as 13 years old. He also speaks approvingly of



In this Jan. 25, 2017, file photo, Milo Yiannopoulos speaks on campus in the Mathematics building at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo.

his own sexual relationship with a 29-year-old priest when he was 17.

"In the homosexual world, particularly, some of those relationships between younger boys and older men—the sort of 'coming of age' relationship—those relationships in which those older men help those young

boys discover who they are and give them security and safety and provide them with love and a reliable, sort of rock, where they can't speak to their parents," he said.

Later Monday, Simon & Schuster and its Threshold Editions imprint announced that "after careful consideration" they had pulled Yiannopoulos'

book, for which pre-orders placed it high on Amazon.com's best-seller lists. The subject of intense controversy from the start, "Dangerous" was originally scheduled to come out in March. But Yiannopoulos pushed back the re-

lease to June so he could write about the protests during his recent campus tour, including a cancelled appearance at the University of California, Berkeley.

At the time of his publisher's decision Monday, "Dan-

gerous" ranked No. 83 on Amazon's overall list and No. 1 in the subcategory of "Censorship & Politics."

Simon & Schuster did not offer any specific reason for pulling "Dangerous." In Facebook postings Monday night, Yiannopoulos wrote: "They canceled my book" and "I've gone through worse. This will not defeat me."

Yiannopoulos is known for his vicious criticism of women and Muslims, among others. Last summer, he helped instigate a harassment campaign against "Ghostbusters" star Leslie Jones that led to his banishment from Twitter.

More than 100 Simon & Schuster authors had objected to his book deal, which was announced last December, and prominent feminist writer Roxane Gay withdrew a planned book. Some bookstores had said they would not sell it, although the National Coalition Against Censorship and other free speech organizations had defended the publisher. Threshold is a conservative imprint that has published books by President Donald Trump, who has defended Yiannopoulos, and former Vice President Dick Cheney, among others.

## Eric Church cancels 25K tickets bought by scalpers

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)**—Country star Eric Church has been battling ticket scalpers for years as his popularity grew and he began selling out arenas. But he's taken his biggest step yet by cancelling more than 25,000 tickets to his spring tour that were purchased by scalpers and putting them back on sale for fans to purchase.

The "Springsteen" singer told The Associated Press he's going to do everything he can do to stop what he calls a criminal organization that's making millions.

"They buy thousands of tickets across the U.S., not just mine, and they end up making a fortune," Church said in an interview. "They use fake credit cards, fake IDs. All of this is fraud."

The tickets will be released on Tuesday at noon local time for the remaining stops of the 60-city tour. Previously purchased tickets for his tour stops in Canada, which start Feb. 28 in Ontario, have already been released and more tickets for his shows in Washington and Oregon will go on sale on Feb. 27.

Church has used this same method to cancel tickets purchased by scalpers for a few individual shows previously, but never on this scale and few artists are as meticulous as Church is when it comes to verifying who is purchasing tickets for his shows.

"We're getting better at identifying who the scalpers are," Church said. "Every artist can do this, but some of them don't. Some of them don't feel the way I feel or are as passionate."

In a report last year, investigators in New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's office cited a single broker that bought 1,012 tickets within one minute to a U2 concert at Madison Square Garden when they went on sale on Dec. 8, 2014, despite the vendor's claim of a four-ticket limit. By day's end, that broker and one other had 15,000 tickets to U2's North American shows.

The report said third-party brokers resell tickets on sites like StubHub and TicketsNow at average margins of 49 percent above face value and

sometimes more than 10 times the price.

Over the years Church has tried a variety of methods to crack down on reselling tickets for money. He's used paperless ticketing, where buyers have to show a credit card at the door of the venue. He's also tried increasing the price of the tickets to make them less appealing to resellers and has increased screening of purchases through his fan club, which has access to the best seats before the general public, according to Fielding Logan, one of Church's managers at Q Prime South.

Church admits that a lot of these methods are arduous for the average fan, but he said he doesn't want his most loyal fans to pay inflated prices to see him perform. On this year's Holdin' My Own Tour, he's got no opening band and is playing two extended sets of hits from his entire catalog, including the multiplatinum album "Chief" and his most recent Country Music Association album of the year "Mr. Misunderstood."

## 3 men convicted in \$110 million Paris modern art heist

**PARIS (AP)**—An agile thief nicknamed "Spiderman," an antiques dealer and an art expert were sentenced to prison Monday and ordered to pay Paris for stealing five masterpieces from the city's Modern Art Museum worth 104 million euros (\$110 million.)

The paintings—by Picasso, Matisse, Modigliani, Braque and Fernand Leger—have not been seen since the dramatic 2010 heist.

The Paris court convicted "Spiderman" Vjeran Tomic of stealing the paintings and sentenced him to eight years in prison. Jean-Michel Corvez, the antiques dealer who orchestrated the theft, was sentenced to seven years.

Yonathan Birn, who stored the paintings and told the court he destroyed them out of fear of getting caught, screamed at the judge who sentenced him to six years in prison.

His lawyer, Caroline Toby, called Birn's sentence "particularly severe."

The court also jointly fined the men an eye-popping 104 million euros for the loss of the paintings, but the verdict did not detail how they might go about raising even a frac-

tion of the fine.

Birn, a 40-year-old expert and dealer in luxury watches, previously told the court he threw the masterpieces in the trash and "made the worst mistake of my existence."

Investigators think the paintings were smuggled out of France, although they were not able to prove that, court documents showed. Birn's co-defendants testified he was "too smart" to destroy the masterpieces.

Tomic, a thief with 14 previous convictions, said before sentencing that he got a buzz from the May 20, 2010, overnight break-in. He took advantage of failures in the security, alarm and video-surveillance systems to move around the high-ceilinged museum near the Eiffel Tower.

"It's quite spectacular. There is an adrenaline rush the moment you enter the space," he said. "The sounds resonate from one side to the other."

Authorities found climbing gear at his home: gloves, ropes, climbing shoes and suction cups. He removed the glass from a bay window without breaking it and cut the padlock of the metal

grid behind it, allowing him to move from one room to another without raising the security alarm.

Tomic was there to steal a painting by Fernand Leger and possibly a Modigliani ordered by Corvez, the 61-year-old antiques dealer who confessed to being a receiver of stolen goods. Tomic said when he came across the Picasso, the Matisse and the Braque paintings, he decided to take them as well.

Several hours after the headline-making burglary, Tomic said he offered the five paintings to Corvez, who said he was "totally stunned" by them.

Corvez said he initially gave Tomic a plastic bag containing 40,000 euros (\$43,000) in small denominations just for the Leger, because he was unsure he would get buyers for the other paintings.

Corvez then became worried about keeping the artworks in his shop after several months and showed them to his friend Birn, who agreed to buy the Modigliani for 80,000 euros (\$86,000) and to store the others in his studio. The Modigliani was hidden in a bank safe, he said.





## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Jolie hopes family will come out 'stronger' after breakup

**NEW YORK (AP)** —Angelina Jolie says that she and her family have been going through a "difficult time" since the breakup of her marriage to Brad Pitt, but added that hopefully they would come out "stronger for it." The actress and filmmaker spoke briefly about her personal struggles during a recent interview with BBC World News. She has been promoting her new movie, "First They Killed My Father." It's set in Cambodia and based on the life of author and human rights activist Loung Ung, who was a child during the brutal Khmer Rouge regime of the 1970s. Jolie directed the film and co-wrote the screenplay with Loung. Jolie, who has custody of her six children with Pitt, said that "we are and forever will be a family" and that having faith was how she was "coping."

### 'Moonlight' and 'The Americans' receive Writers Guild Awards

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The screenplay for "Moonlight" and the scripts for "The Americans" and "Atlanta" were among the winners of this year's Writers Guild Awards. Barry Jenkins' script for the Oscar-nominated "Moonlight" won the Guild prize for best original screenplay. Oscar nominee Eric Heisserer of "Arrival" won for best adapted screenplay. Best documentary screenplay went to "Command and Control," based on a teleplay by Robert Kenner and Eric Schlosser and story by Brian Pearle and Kim Roberts. The awards were presented in New York and Los Angeles on Sunday night by the Writers Guild of America, West and East. "The

Americans" featured a team of seven writers and won for best television drama series. Best comedy went to "Atlanta" and its team of five writers, including Donald Glover and Stephen Glover.

### Survivors mark anniversary of nightclub fire that killed 100

**WEST WARWICK, R.I. (AP)** —Survivors of a 2003 nightclub fire that killed 100 people have marked the 14th anniversary of the blaze with small gatherings where it happened. Small gatherings of survivors and relatives of those who died were held Sunday and Monday at the site of the former Station nightclub in West Warwick. On Sunday, attendees joined hands in a circle and spent 100 seconds in silence to honor those killed. On Monday, a small group gathered during a prayer by a local priest. The site is now a construction zone. It's being turned into a permanent memorial to those who died and to rescuers and others who helped respond to the fire on Feb. 20, 2003. The Station Fire Memorial Foundation raised \$2 million for the memorial park. Gina Russo, president of the group and a survivor of the fire, said on Monday that the cost of stone was more expensive than anticipated so the group is working to fundraise \$120,000 more to pay for it. The park is expected to open in May, Russo said. "It's exciting to see it finally coming together," she said. "It's really nice. It's beautiful." Pyrotechnics for the rock band Great White started the blaze, setting fire to flammable foam that lined the inside of the club. More than 200 people were injured.

### David Cassidy fighting memory loss, wants to 'enjoy life'

**NEW YORK (AP)** —Former "Partridge Family" star David Cassidy says he's struggling with memory loss. The 66-year-old actor-singer tells People magazine his family has a history of dementia and he had sensed "this was coming." He says for now he wants to stay focused and "enjoy life." Cassidy has had numerous personal problems in the decades following his initial success, ranging from substance abuse to bankruptcy. He's the stepson of actress and fellow "Partridge Family" star Shirley Jones.

### Hot sauce and hope for Conan O'Brien in Mexico

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** —The towering U.S. television host Conan O'Brien is drawing stares in Mexico, where he's taping an episode of his show in a bid to "do something positive" about the tensions in U.S.-Mexico relations. O'Brien, who is 6-feet-4, arrived late last week and has spent part of his time in Mexico City strolling the streets, greeting people and trying the food. On Monday he stopped by one of the city's fancier taco restaurants and wound up trying hot sauce straight out of the bowl as

restaurant patrons taped the scene on their phones. Some gasped, "No!" O'Brien said: "Now, I am Mexican. I am also dying." He doesn't think his outreach marks a turning point in bilateral relations, but said, "Everyone has to do their part."

### Jazz fusion guitarist Larry Coryell dies in NYC at age 73

**NEW YORK (AP)** —Jazz guitarist Larry Coryell, known as the "Godfather of Fusion," has died in New York City. He was 73. His publicist, Kurt Nishimura, said Coryell died Sunday in his hotel room of natural causes. Nishimura

says he had just performed two shows at the Iridium on Friday and Saturday. Coryell grew up in the Seattle area. After taking up the guitar, he moved to New York City in 1965. Coryell's eclectic career includes collaborations with many of the jazz greats, including Miles Davis, Gary Burton, Alphonse Mouzon and Chet Baker. His works often mixed jazz, classical and rock ingredients. In 1969, he recorded "Spaces," his most noted album. Many say it sparked the emergence of the jazz fusion movement. Coryell is survived by his wife, two daughters and two sons.



### TRUMP WIGS

Manuela Plank, owner of a costume rental shop, fashions normal blond hairpieces into Trump wigs in Pfaffstaetten, Austria, Monday, Feb. 20, 2017. Just about everyone wants to be Donald Trump this carnival season in Austria—so much so that some costume rentals are out of stock of wigs miming the U.S. president's signature hairstyle. AP

## Daughter's identity as asexual is not welcome by her mom

**DEAR ABBY:** I have recently started disclosing to close friends and family that I am asexual (someone who experiences no sexual attraction to any person). For the most part they have been supportive, but my mother and one of my friends are having trouble accepting it. I have told them I do not want children and that I am repulsed by the thought of sexual intercourse, but my mother acts like if I don't have children, I won't be as welcome. She even suggested that I could marry a gay man, so sex wouldn't be an issue. And my friend continues to pressure me into dating, saying I "just haven't met the right one yet."

Abby, I have no clue how to maintain contact with them, as they seem unwilling to let my sexual identity be my business.

AN ACE IN A HOLE

**DEAR ACE:** Your sexual identity became their business the minute you told them you were asexual. The problem is that your friend and your mother do not understand what asexuality is—and many people don't. Please tell your mother for me that marrying a gay man is not the answer because HE may want a sex life, something to which he is entitled, by the way. As to your friend, she's well-meaning I'm sure, but misguided.

You are who you are. You're not going to change, and you should not be punished for it. Please try not to be defensive because this is your chance to educate. Answer their ques-

tions with patience and kindness and do not let yourself be bullied or emotionally blackmailed into doing anything you are not comfortable with.

**DEAR ABBY:** After my daughter Jenna's father tried to strangle me in a drunken rage one night, I took her and left. Years later, we are on good terms. I have legal custody. He sends financial support and visits about once a month. My finances, however, are not great.

Because we are not in touch with his extended family, I was surprised when he told me his sister wants Jenna to be a flower girl in her destination wedding. I'm not comfortable sending her alone with her father because of his history of alcohol abuse (which his sister is unaware of). I am not financially able to take her myself.

Is there a solution I'm overlooking? Am I callous for thinking she just wants a cute child as an accessory to her wedding party?

MOTHER OF THE FLOWER GIRL

**DEAR MOTHER:** Without knowing your former partner's sister, it would be unfair of me to guess her reason for wanting your daughter in her wedding. However, if your ex is still drinking, you are absolutely right that Jenna should not be traveling with him. Perhaps he would be willing to pay for both of you to be there.

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have an interesting question for you. Is it sexual harassment if a female supervisor at work calls a male employee "Honey"?

PETER IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**DEAR PETER:** If that's all there is to it, I doubt it would be considered sexual harassment. However, if you are the employee being called "Honey," because it bothers you, tell your employer privately that it makes you uncomfortable and you prefer being addressed by your given name.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



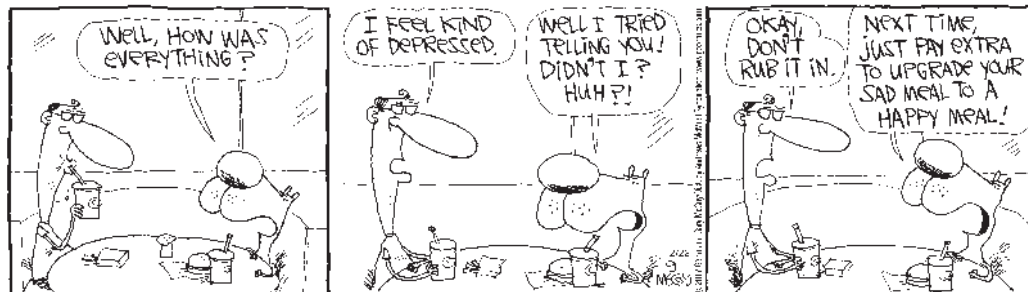
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 "Phooey!" sch.

5 Glutton

8 Smack a baseball

12 Medley

13 Put on TV

14 Drive — window

15 State tree of Rhode Island

17 Ceremony

18 Attack

19 Containers for oranges

21 HST follower

22 Tom Joad, for one

23 Texter's "Wow!"

26 Computer key

28 Different

31 Mattress option

33 Ener-vate

35 Not all

36 Canine woes

38 Ever-green type

40 Vat

**DOWN**

41 Grade

43 Zilch

45 Kitchen adjunct

47 Pig sounds

51 French cleric

52 Rodgers and Hart song

54 Herbal brews

55 "— was saying ..."

56 Needle case

57 Eyelid woe

58 Press for payment

59 Rain-delay cover

16 Staffer

20 "Top Hat" studio

23 Not on

24 Wire measure

25 Home of the Packers

27 Low isle

29 Outback bird

30 Yank's foe

32 "The — Falcon"

34 Bird in a "tuxedo"

37 Sun. talk

39 Current carrier

42 "Ooops"

44 "Net-work" director

45 Bits of butter

46 Help a crook

48 Part of N.B.

49 Go sight-seeing

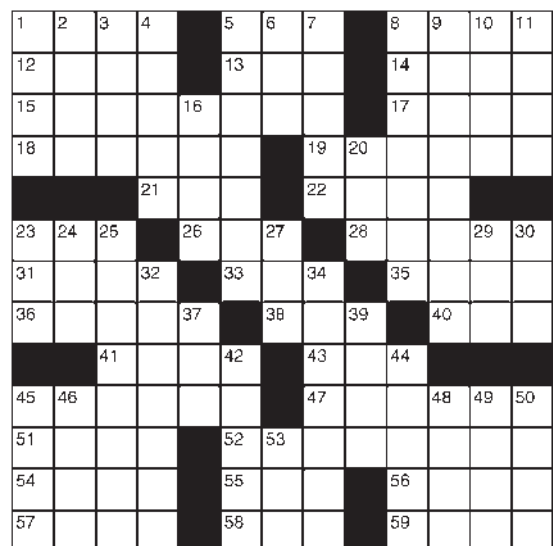
50 Use scissors

53 Baton Rouge sch.

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

V	O	I	D	F	R	O	C	R	O	W
I	R	M	A	L	A	W	H	O	P	E
P	I	A	N	T	A	I	N	I	R	E
S	Y	N	Q	I	L	F	E	E	L	S
T	A	W	N	Y	F	L	A	T	B	E
A	B	I	T	N	I	L	A	G	N	E
J	U	N	E	B	U	G	P	I	X	E
R	I	B	B	E	N					
K	L	U	T	Z	O	R	O	G	P	S
H	E	R	A	F	O	U	N	T	A	I
A	N	D	I	U	Z	I	U	I	N	A
V	O	U	N	N	E	D	G	A	S	P

Yesterday's answer 2-22



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Drew Barrymore, 42; Thomas Jane, 48; Jeri Ryan, 49; Kyle MacLachlan, 58.

**Happy Birthday:** Volunteer or take a stance and do something that will make a difference in your community or the way you choose to live life. Embrace challenges, but don't set unreasonable goals. Consider the possibilities and how to approach what you want to see happen without losing sight of what's most important to you. If you give, you will receive. Your numbers are 4, 11, 18, 26, 37, 42, 48.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Someone will try your patience. When it comes to work, put your head down and take care of your responsibilities to avoid any recourse or complaints. Strive for perfection and excellence and you will overcome setbacks and loss. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Share your thoughts and feelings and find out where you stand. Someone will contribute to your ideas and offer to help you. Collaboration with the right people will bring prolific results. Let your imagination flow. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Do what you can for others, but make sure you get something in return. Don't let anyone take advantage of your generosity and keen perception of situations. If you want to contribute or partner with someone, set up guidelines and boundaries. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Look outside your usual stomping grounds. Go to unfamiliar destinations and you will expand your mind. Checking out different philosophies, lifestyles and cultural backgrounds will lead to personal changes. Discuss your thoughts

and plans with someone you love. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Make plans to boost your education. Be resourceful and engage in feats that are challenging and require intelligence, perception and physical agility. Show everyone what you are capable of accomplishing and new opportunities will be your reward. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Be leery of people making outlandish promises or unpredictable moves. The information you are given will not be complete. Question every aspect of any contract, negotiation, settlement or money matter before you concede. Invest in yourself, not someone else. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll find it difficult to keep the peace when dealing with partners or people you live with. A reserved approach will give you a chance to gather facts and information that will help you negotiate your position and your plans. ★★

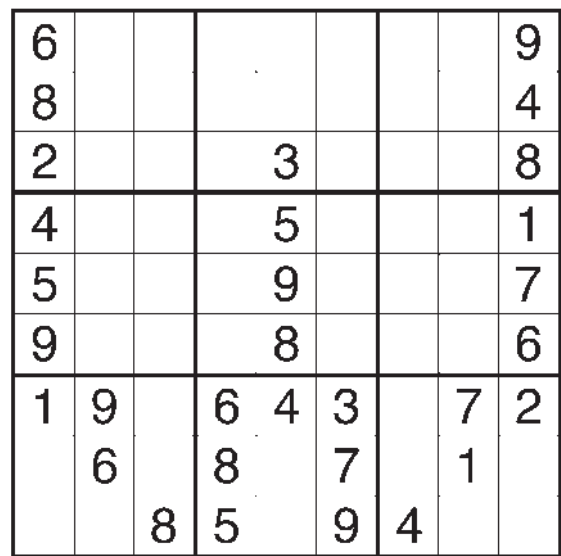
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You'll have plenty to think about. Don't let anyone persuade you to take part in something that isn't going to benefit you personally. An emotional plea will lead to changes that are not in your best interest. Avoid travel and dealing with institutions. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Emotional matters will surface if you neglect someone who needs your attention. Dealing with children, friends, relatives or your lover should be handled carefully. Don't take physical or financial risks. Don't let someone from your past disrupt your life. ★★★

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



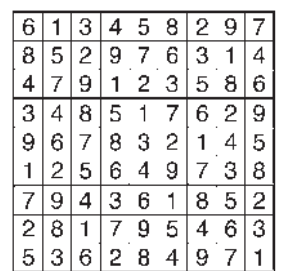
Difficulty Level ★★ ★

2/22

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

2/22

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Educational pursuits and dealing with professors, police or anyone in a position of authority will cause you stress and uncertainty. Use your ability to learn from others in order to come up with a plan that works for you. ★★★



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Ask questions and make decisions. A chance to expand an interest or idea you have will bring you greater returns than you anticipate. Don't waffle or show laziness when taking actions to turn your dream into a reality. ★★★



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Size up your situation and set parameters. Don't overdo it in order to be noticed or feel obligated to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. A slow and steady pace will get you where you want to go. ★★★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are ambitious, perceptive and outgoing. You are imaginative and experimental.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

NAVEL, PIERCING

Solution: 7 letters



©2017 Andrew Volkes www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 2/22

Adornment, Alcohol, Antibacterial, Banana Bars, Bananabells, Barbell, Beads, Belly, Body, Button, Chain, Chic, Clasp, Clean, Closure, Crystals, Diamond, Dried, Gauge, Glamorous, Gold, Heal, Hygienic, Image, Ink, Marker, Needle, Numb, Pain, Plastic, Rhinestone, Ritual, Silver, Skin, Solid, Steel, Stomach, Technician, Thread, Titanium, Trend, Wash

Yesterday's Answer: Justice

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24 can be purchased online at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com).



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2 Accountant/ Bookkeeper, 8 Houseworker, 6 Landscaper, 2



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waiter/waitress, 2 Heavy equipment operator, minimum salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

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- Full time with flexible working hours
- Mason

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WHATZIT Solution: Count me out

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# Kings GM on Cousins trade: I had a better deal two days ago

By JOSH DUBOW  
AP SPORTS WRITER



Sacramento general manager Vlade Divac headed into All-Star weekend convinced it was finally time to part ways with ultra-talented center DeMarcus Cousins.

Befitting a franchise that appears headed to an 11th straight season without a playoff berth, the Kings even seemed to botch that. Sacramento dealt Cousins and forward Omri Casspi to New Orleans in exchange for Tyreke Evans, 2016 first-round draft pick Buddy Hield, Langston Galloway and first- and second-round draft picks this summer.

When asked Monday why he didn't wait for a better offer closer to Thursday's trade deadline, Divac gave a curious response that raised more questions than it answered.

"Most likely we would get less because I had a better deal two days ago," Divac said. "I don't want to go into details. I don't want to discuss the process."

Cousins will now team with another former Kentucky big man who has developed into an NBA All-Star in New Orleans' Anthony Davis. Cousins is averaging 27.8 points and 10.6 rebounds this season and can become a free agent in 2018 unless the Pelicans can sign him to an All-Star caliber extension.

The Kings have not won more than 33 games in a season since drafting Cousins fifth overall in 2010 and grew tired of his antics that included frequent run-ins with coaches, media members and officials.



He leads the NBA with 17 technical fouls this season, leading to a one-game suspension earlier this month. He will be suspended again after his

next technical foul and every two beyond that for the rest of the regular season.

Divac frequently mentioned culture and character when

explaining the thought behind the deal, saying the franchise needed a change despite being only 1 1/2 games behind Denver for the final playoff spot in

Western Conference forward DeMarcus Cousins of the Sacramento Kings (15) warms up before the second half of the NBA All-Star basketball game against the Eastern Conference in New Orleans, Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017.

the Western Conference.

"I really love DeMarcus," Divac said. "I think he's a great kid. It just wasn't a fit right now with what we're trying to do. I wish him all the best. I hope this will have a positive effect on his career."

The deal to pair Cousins with Davis sends a message that the Pelicans are more concerned with making a 25-game push for the playoffs this spring than where they'll be drafting next offseason.

Pelicans general manager Dell Demps previous attempts to provide Davis a requisite supporting cast has been under increasing scrutiny as losses have mounted—New Orleans is 23-34, 2 1/2 games out of the final playoff spot in the West with 25 games left. When the deal was made official Monday, Demps thanked Pelicans owner Tom Benson and top executives Mickey Loomis and Dennis Lauscha for their "continued support and providing the resources for us to be successful."

"This is an exciting time for Pelicans fans as we continue our quest for long-term success," Demps said.

The Kings, who are a game ahead of the Pelicans in the standings, will now enter rebuilding mode without Cousins. They could deal other veterans for prospects or picks before Thursday's deadline

but even the rebuilding plan has issues.

The Kings could be forced to swap first-round picks with Philadelphia this year and also owe the 76ers an unprotected 2019 pick as part of a trade in July 15 made to create salary cap room to sign Rajon Rondo, Kosta Koufos and Marco Belinelli. Only Koufos is still in Sacramento.

This trade does increase Sacramento's chances at two first-round picks this year because they only have to give up their top pick to Chicago if it falls outside the top 10. The pick from New Orleans is top-three protected.

"We feel very strong about this draft this year," Divac said. "It's very strong, stronger than the past few years. It's time to start fresh."

The Kings also get the 23-year-old Hield, who won the Wooden Award at Oklahoma last year before being drafted sixth overall by the Pelicans. Hield has struggled as a rookie, averaging 8.6 points per game in 20.4 minutes per contest, while shooting 39.2 percent from the field and 36.9 percent from 3-point range.

"He's talented guy," Divac said. "His work ethic is exactly what we want here."

Evans, who can play point guard, shooting guard or small forward, will be entering a second stint in Sacramento, where he was drafted in 2009 and went on to be Rookie of the Year. Galloway has been a solid reserve, providing scoring punch from the perimeter.

Casspi has been playing about 19 minutes a game for the Kings this season, averaging 5.9 points and 4.1 rebounds.

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—Jahlil Okafor viewed New Orleans during All-Star weekend with a different lens than usual, since he thought there was a chance it may have been his next home.

That's life in the rumor mill.

Welcome to trade season, already underway in earnest and will remain so until Thursday afternoon's deadline. All-Star DeMarcus Cousins is changing his address from Sacramento to New Orleans, Serge Ibaka was sent last week from Orlando to Toronto—and the next few days will likely see Carmelo Anthony, Jimmy Butler, Taj Gibson, Reggie Jackson and many more all discussed by various teams.

"Here we go again," said Okafor, the Philadelphia 76ers forward who missed two games before the break amid looming trade speculation.

## Welcome to NBA trade season, already underway in earnest

The motivations are many, and obvious in most cases. Some teams will look to add pieces with hopes of enhancing their postseason hopes; others are looking to build toward the future by shedding expiring contracts or collecting draft picks.

The jostling is already well underway, and the Cousins move would be huge for New Orleans—if they can convince him to sign an extension this summer. Ibaka figures to bolster the Raptors' chances in the East, and Cleveland moved the injured Chris Andersen to Charlotte to open up a roster spot just in case the Cavs have a chance to add a piece that might help LeBron James when it's time to defend last season's title.

Even the Cavs are looking to get better. And of course,

teams are looking for ways to improve enough to beat the defending champs as well.

"To know that everyone is trying to build their team or wanting to get their team to try to get to where you are and try to knock you off, it's a motivating factor," said Cleveland star LeBron James, who's vying to make a seventh consecutive trip to the NBA Finals. "It's also a humbling factor that to know that I've been in this position for so long." With Cousins now moved, the next huge domino to fall may be Anthony, who has a no-trade clause—but is going through times trying enough with the New York Knicks that he may be persuaded to drop that clause.

The Knicks were tied for fourth in the East in mid-December; they're now

12th, having lost 21 of their last 28 games and if that wasn't enough also dealing with fallout related to cryptic tweets by team president Phil Jackson and the Charles Oakley incident where he was dragged from Madison Square Garden and arrested.

Anthony, at All-Star weekend, said he was bolstered by support from fellow stars.

"For me, it's good to see the support from my peers despite everything I have been having to deal with," Anthony said. "When you have your peers who understand it, they're the ones who are actually going through similar situations and can relate to those types of situations because they're in it. So to have my peers speak up and talk about that, it means a lot to me."

But does he expect to move

this week?

"I did not come here to talk about no-trade talk," Anthony said.

Others have no choice. The Bulls might lose Gibson in free agency this summer, and Boston—which could easily have the No. 1 pick in this year's draft thanks to a past deal with the Brooklyn Nets—is believed to be a potential landing spot for Butler if Chicago elects to go into a full rebuilding mode. If that happens, the Bulls probably wouldn't be expecting Dwyane Wade to stay this summer either.

"There's nothing I can do about it," Butler said. "Control what you can control. Why talk about it? Why worry about it? If you're here you're here. If you're not, you're not. ... Do I deserve to be traded? I don't know. It's not my job.

It's not in my job description. I'm just supposed to play basketball to the best of my ability. If I'm here, I'm here."

Orlando, with an eye on the future, is considering a deal where it would take Jackson from Detroit and essentially make him the Magic point guard of the future since three full seasons remain on what was a five-year, \$80 million contract.

Not everyone gets frenzied at trade-deadline time. San Antonio, for example, hasn't made a deadline deal of any real significance since acquiring Kurt Thomas in 2008.

"It's all about team chemistry," Spurs star forward Kawhi Leonard said. "You've always got to figure out the best way for you and your team, but I think we're doing a good job right now. You can talk to the front office and see what they're doing, but right now I feel like we're doing good."



# At 61, 'late-bloomer' Snitker savors shot as Braves manager



**KISSIM-  
MEE, Fla.**  
(AP)—Let's

face it, Brian Snitker had pretty much given up on his dream.

He always wanted to be a big league manager.

But with his career in baseball approaching four decades, he figured there wasn't much chance of actually getting the call.

Yet here he is, at 61, getting ready for his first full season as skipper of the Atlanta Braves.

"I've always been a late bloomer," Snitker cracked this week, sitting in the dugout after his team finished a spring training workout.

He took over the Braves on an interim basis last May, becoming the fourth-oldest rookie manager in baseball history.

Snitker was surpassed only by 66-year-old Tom Sheehan, who managed the San Francisco Giants for part of the 1960 season; 64-year-old Bobby Mattick, who guided the Toronto Blue Jays in 1980 and '81; and 62-year-old Red Corriden, who finished the 1950 season for the Chicago White Sox.



"I don't feel my age," Snitker said. "I'm going to just enjoy it for what it is and have a good time with it."

He certainly put in the time.

Snitker has been with the Braves organization since

1977, spending four seasons as a minor league catcher and first baseman before moving into coaching.

He became a manager for the first time in the Class A South Atlantic League at age 26, and his star seemed on the rise when he joined the big league club as a bullpen coach in 1985.

It didn't last. He returned to the minors the following season, settling into a largely overlooked career as a jack-of-all trades in the organization. He managed at every level of the minors, from the rookie leagues to Triple-A, and got two more stints as a coach for the big league team.

After seven years as Atlanta's third-base coach, first serving under Bobby Cox and then for his successor, Fredi Gonzalez, Snitker was sent back to the minors following

the 2013 season to manage Triple-A Gwinnett.

He dutifully accepted the job but could see the writing on the wall.

His hopes of managing the Braves—or any other major league team, for that matter—were likely finished.

"You know what? After being up here and seeing what those guys go through and all that, I was like, 'Eh, I'm getting to that age where it probably won't (happen)'" Snitker remembered. "Then, all of a sudden, they called. It's like, 'Heck, yeah, I'll do it.'"

Last May, with the Braves in the midst of a major rebuilding job and predictably off to a miserable start, Gonzalez was fired.

Snitker was handed what looked like another thankless job: Just get through the season the best he could, before

the Braves moved on to their next full-time manager.

A funny thing happened, though.

The Braves, who won just 16 of their first 58 games, suddenly became a respectable team. Yes, they still finished last in the NL East, but team executives took notice of a 52-51 record after June 7—and especially a group that played hard until the end, winning 12 of its last 14 games when there wasn't anything on the line.

There was a bit of an uncomfortable period while the Braves interviewed former managers Bud Black and Ron Washington, but Snitker wound up getting the full-time job nine days after the season ended.

"Brian truly earned this opportunity," general manager John Coppolella said. "Whether it's the 40 years of service to the Braves, whether it's

AP  
In this Feb. 18, 2017, file photo, Atlanta Braves manager Brian Snitker talks with infielder Freddie Freeman during the first full-squad spring training workout in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

the way the team performed, but probably more than anything it's the feeling our players have for him. These guys played differently under him. They came to me and (president of baseball operations) John Hart personally and said, "Look, this is the best manager we've ever had."

Snitker brought a more relaxed atmosphere to the clubhouse, something definitely lacking toward the end of Gonzalez's tenure. He instilled confidence in his players. He made the game fun again.

"He understands the grind," catcher Tyler Flowers said. "He's someone who had to grind it out himself. He's been there."

Snitker is still getting used to being the guy in charge, but he's putting his stamp on the team.

He brought in three new coaches, including Washington at third-base coach. At spring training, the Braves have returned to a shorter schedule for workouts, more in line with the way Cox ran things during his more than two decades as manager.

"People are tugging at you a lot more, and you're responsible for everything," Snitker said. "But every day you're out there, every day that you experience it, I think you get a little better at it."

At his age, Snitker can't afford to look too far down the road.

"I know I'm not going to be doing this for 20 years," he said with a chuckle.

## Harper won't elaborate on 'exactly why' 2016 was a down year

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.** (AP)—Bryce Harper says he knows "exactly why" he went from NL MVP honors in 2015 to a decidedly less-successful 2016.

He's just not willing to share that reason.

Or at least he wasn't on Saturday, when he met with reporters a day before the Washington Nationals' first official full-squad workout of spring training.

"That's all last year. That's what you go through and you build and you grow and you try to maintain. And that's what I'm going to try to do again this year," Harper said, playing with a ball in his hands while talking. "Try to just maintain what I can and do everything I can possible to help this team win. And I was (in the) lineup last year and tried to help this team win every single day."

He hit only .243 with 24 homers and 86 RBIs for the NL East champions last season, significant drop-offs from the .330, 42 and 99 of a year earlier, when Harper became the youngest unanimous MVP in major league history.

Still only 24, the right fielder is already a four-time All-Star and was the NL Rookie of the Year in 2012.

Asked Saturday if he feels he can pinpoint why his production dipped in 2016, Harper began by responding, "Yeah, I mean, I know exactly why."

But then he danced around follow-up questions seeking specifics.

One example: Harper spoke about "staying in the lineup" last season as if it were a chore, but he did not say that he was injured.

"Tried to play 150 games last year," Harper said, adding that he would go to manager Dusty Baker to tell him he wanted to remain in the lineup.

Harper appeared in 147 games.

"I'd say, 'Hey, man, how you feeling?' I could see him slowing down," Baker said. "And there were some times I didn't have to lobby at all, because I said: 'OK, man, we've got 15 days in a row. I'm going to try to give you Sunday off.' And he says, 'I'll be ready to win the game, late in the game.' ... With certain guys, your horses come to play. That's why they're horses. I haven't had any trouble with Bryce. He's very easy to get along with. He's very respectful. He's very respectful of authority."

Baker said he thinks he's got "a pretty good handle" on what went awry for Harper last season.

And the manager said he's spoken to Harper about the sorts of changes that are required of a hitter after teams try new ways of attacking him.

"The game is about constantly adjusting," Baker said. "Let's face it: He's way ahead of most guys (24) years old."

## 'Here I come to save the day!' Eaton likes Mighty Mouse look

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.** (AP)—Adam Eaton donned his "go-to shirt"—a gray T, with the words "Mighty Mouse" in red, and a sketch of the small-but-strong cartoon character who debuted in the 1940s—before and after the Washington Nationals' first full-squad workout of spring training on Sunday.

The piece of casual clothing, purchased by his wife at a Nordstrom Rack, contains the nickname given to the 5-foot-8 Eaton in college at Miami (Ohio).

And while it took a while for the outfielder to embrace his "Napoleon syndrome," as he called it, Eaton is now proud of what he's been able to do in the majors.

"You definitely play with a chip on your shoulder to say that, you know, smaller guys can play this game and play at

a high level. For me, I always tell fans that half the fans are taller than me and to tell their little ones that, hey, anything's possible. Doesn't matter the size or the strength or anything," Eaton said.

"If you have determination and a dream, go out and reach it, because I think that I am definitely living proof that you don't have to be 6-3 to play in this league, and you don't have to be the most athletic and the prettiest runner and everything," he added. "It doesn't have to be beautiful. Just go out and have a drive and reach your goal."

He's at least 3 inches shorter than every other member of the Nationals' 40-man roster - including a 7-inch height difference with Bryce Harper, and 9 with Jayson Werth, the other members of his hitting group Sunday.

"If you talk to scouts, there's that bias: 'Oh, he's such a big, strong, strapping guy,'" said former major league player and manager Bob Boone, now a Nationals VP and senior adviser to general manager Mike Rizzo. "But what really matters is what happens between the lines. If you can really play, nobody cares about your size."

Eaton was Rizzo's biggest offseason addition for the defending NL East champions, who sent three young pitchers to the Chicago White Sox.

Manager Dusty Baker is expected to bat Eaton first or second in the lineup and start him in center, between corner outfielders Werth and Harper.

"I told him to put me wherever he wants to put me," Eaton said.

Last season, Eaton hit .284 with 14 homers, 59 RBIs and

14 stolen bases, while leading the majors with 18 outfield assists from right field.

Eaton, 28, has three guaranteed seasons left in a \$23.5 million, five-year contract. He has a .284 career batting average with a .357 on-base percentage and a .414 slugging percentage, with 34 homers and 177 RBIs in five seasons with the White Sox and the Arizona Diamondbacks. He led the AL in triples in two of the past three seasons.

Baker said Eaton's former manager in Chicago, Robin Ventura, offered something of a scouting report on the player: "Robin said he comes to play. And I think that's the No. 1 thing that we're getting paid for. You come to play. That's a good sign and it's a very good reputation to have—that he's a ballplayer."



By ROSELYN B. MONROY  
roselyn\_monroy@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

# MPU gets early lead; Matansa wins

MP United Football Club took the solo lead in the boys U14 division, while Matansa recovered from its season-debut loss in the 2017 NMIFA Youth Spring League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

MP United shut down Shirley's Football Club, 2-0, in the curtain-raiser of Week 2 of the league for a 2-0-0 win-draw-loss record and the No. 1 spot in the team standings in the six-squad field. Rohan Basnet logged both goals for the early leaders with his first one posted in the 15th minute and the second in the 50th.

With Basnet's pair of goals, MP United now has scored four and has given up only one. Rintaro Miyawaki and Richard Steele registered MP United's first two goals.

Shirley's has yet to score at this early stage of the season and absorbed its second setback in as many games. Shir-



ley's bowed to TanHoldings during the league's opening week, 0-1.

TanHoldings, on the other hand, faltered on its bid for back-to-back victories after

Kanoa FC won in the second game in Week 2, 2-1. Jaydee Jose handed Kanoa its lone goal five minutes before the 80-minute match concluded.

Kanoa moved up to second

place in the team standings with its 1-1-0 win-draw-loss record. It went through a stand-off against Paire, 2-2, during its opening game last Feb. 11.

Paire played in Week 2's

ROSELYN B. MONROY  
A Matansa FC player, second right, is chased by three Paire defenders during the first half of their boys U14 division game in the NMIFA youth league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

last match, which Matansa won, 3-1. Justin Charles Achas helped Matansa bounce back from its 1-2 loss to MP United in their first game after logging two goals against Paire. Razeff Altamirano earned the other goal and the first for Matansa when he found his target in the third minute.

Matansa made it a 2-0 lead in the first half off Achas' shot in the 26th minute, while a Dylan Mister goal in the 57th moved Paire within one before another conversion from Achas eight minutes later gave the winning squad the insurance.

Meanwhile, Matansa will go for victory No. 2 when it duels TanHoldings in the first game this Saturday at 1:30pm. In the second match at 3pm, MP United will put its clean record at stake against Paire, while in the third tiff at 4:30pm, Shirley's hopes to end its losing skid when it faces Kanoa.

## BSI

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in that inning off the Bears error at first base, while the BSI Aces got two more runs from the defending champions' defensive lapses. Tudela scored the other earned run for the BSI Aces off Juan Iguel's single, while Barry Sunumai had a two-run single and Eric Palacios had an RBI walk in the first inning.

Behind by double digits, the Bears slowly trimmed the deficit down, starting in the third when they scored two runs. Two more runs in the fifth and one in the sixth kept the defending champions in the game, as the BSI Aces went cold after a good start. Then at the top of the ninth and last inning, the Bears threatened the BSI Aces when leadoff batter Peyton Lizama reached off Jose Lizama's double, and A.J. Lizama followed suit,

thanks to Nick Cruz's single. Ethan Lizama pinched run for Cruz and also made it home off the BSI Aces' error at third base, moving the Bears closer.

After the Bears' first three batters scored, the BSI Aces decided to bring in Tudela and relieve Dung Tenorio. The closer then delivered under pressure, as he struck out the next three batters, ending the Bears' hopes of starting their title defense bid with a win.

Meanwhile, two more teams had their season-debut game last night with the GSM Brewers battling Titanium. For today and tomorrow, the four other squads in the eight-team field will suit up in their first assignments with the Falcons and D-9ers colliding tonight and the Blue Jays and Comets squaring off this Thursday. Then to close out the opening week of the league, the BSI Aces will meet the GSM Brewers.

## AP source: NFL bars Kelly from combine due to past troubles



**BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—**Mississippi quarterback Chad Kelly's past troubles are the reasons the NFL revoked his invitation to the league's scouting combine.

A person familiar with the league's decision told The Associated Press that Kelly is barred from participating in the event because of charges stemming from a fight outside a Buffalo nightclub and for being dismissed by Clemson. Both incidents happened in 2014.

The person spoke to The AP on the condition of anonymity on Thursday because the NFL has not revealed the reason Kelly was not included on the list of participants released by the league a day earlier.

The decision to exclude Kelly is based on a memo the league issued to teams on Jan. 18 outlining reasons draft-eligible prospects will not be permitted to participate in

the weeklong combine in Indianapolis that opens Feb. 28. The memo says prospects will be excluded if background checks reveal past convictions for violent or sexual offenses, or if they were dismissed by their school or the NCAA.

In April 2014, Kelly was kicked out of Clemson following a sideline argument with coaches. In January 2015, Kelly pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct as part of an agreement stemming from a fight with two nightclub bouncers.

Kelly's representatives told Buffalo's 1270 Radio on Wednesday their client was invited to the combine on Jan. 6.

Another prospect not invited to the combine is Oklahoma running back Joe Mixon, who was suspended for the 2014 season after punching a woman in the face.

Kelly is the nephew of Buffalo Bills Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly.

He spent the past two sea-

sons at Ole Miss. Last year, Kelly was leading the SEC with 2,758 yards passing before sustaining a season-ending right knee injury.

One of Kelly's representatives, Vance McAllister, said he's received no explanation from the NFL for its change of course. He also defended Kelly in noting the charges stemming from the nightclub fight were dismissed after the player completed the terms of the plea agreement by performing 50 hours of community service.

"By no means at all are we trying to say Chad didn't have some issues off the field that aren't to be in question," McAllister said. "And we've been questioned by multiple NFL teams on multiple occasions about these incidents. But what we want to know is why all of a sudden now does the NFL feel Chad is not material to be at the combine?"

Kelly was initially charged with resisting arrest, second-degree menacing with a weapon, second-degree ha-

rassment and third-degree assault. Though no weapon was found, Kelly allegedly threatened nightclub staff by saying: "I'm going to go to my car and get my AK47 and spray this place."

Last October, Kelly wasn't charged but was involved in an on-field scuffle that erupted during his brother's high school game in Buffalo.

McAllister said he intends to have his client travel to the combine because Kelly booked a flight to Indianapolis after receiving the initial invitation.

"Until we get a written disinvite or whatever you want to call it from the league, we'll be in Indy," he said. "We'll show up and they'll have to tell Chad 'no' then because they've obviously not willing to put it in writing to tell Chad 'no' now."

Though barred from the combine, Kelly can still meet with NFL teams individually and take part in Mississippi's pro day, which is scheduled for April 3.

## HOPWOOD

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Tanapag had the second most goals (28) and placed second after the elimination with its 3-1-1 win-draw-loss mark, beating Mt. Carmel School in the tiebreak for the No. 2 spot. The Knights fell to No. 3 after tallying only 20 goals in five games and giving up six.

Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School was ranked fourth and got the last playoff berth as it earned a 2-0-3 slate in the elimination round. FMS totaled 15

goals and yielded 13. Whispering Palms/Saipan Community School and Chacha Oceanview Middle School missed the playoffs as they ended up with 1-0-3, and 0-0-5 slates, respectively.

In the playoff round, top-ranked Hopwood was paired against FMS and cruised to a 4-1 victory last Feb. 16 to gain the first finals berth. Ian Karl Maniago, Rohan Basnet, Oliver Fajardo, and Sebastian Manabat scored one goal apiece for Hopwood, while Floyd Muna drilled the solitary goal for FSM.

In the other semis pairing,

Tanapag shut down the MCS Knights, 2-0, to set up the championship duel between the Top 2 finishers in the elimination. Mikel Johnson and Lolobeyong Benito scored for Tanapag in the 29th and 47th minute, respectively.

With the loss, Mt. Carmel was relegated to the battle for third place, which FMS won via penalty shootout, 2-0. The consolation match ended at 1-1 in regulation and was still tied after overtime. Merrick Toves registered the lone goal for MCS, while Romel Muna did the same for FSM. The two scorers for FMS in the penalty shootout

were not indicated in the official match report.

Meanwhile, besides recognizing the Top 4 finishers in the league, the organizing Northern Mariana Islands Football Association also handed out two individual awards in the division.

Tanapag's Benito won the Golden Boot award, while Hopwood's Jason Quimzon took the Golden Glove plum. Benito collected 11 goals, 10 games in the elimination round, while Quimzon gave up only four goals in the preliminary matches and one in the playoffs.

## LEE

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hour. Earlier in the Singles 2 play, Tahiti's Naia Guitton also needed only two sets to beat Mikaela Vicencio, 6-2, 6-0.

With the sweep, Pacific Oceania wrapped up Day 1 of the pre-qualifier on top of Group A. Vietnam is in second with its 2-1 record after downing Tajikistan in the other pairing.

Action in the qualifier continued yesterday with Lee and company scheduled to meet Tajikistan. Pacific Oceania will then close pool play today when it takes on Vietnam. Only the Top 2 teams in each group after the pool play will advance to the playoffs. Group B has Sri Lanka and Singapore, which also recorded sweeps in the opening day, as well as Lebanon and Iraq. The finalists in the pre-qualifier will advance to the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Final Qualifying Zone, which will also be held in India in April, while the Top 3 finishers in the qualifier will earn slots to the world event.

Meanwhile, the CNMI's Robbie Schorr debuted in the Junior Davis Cup last Monday and played against Vietnam in Group B. He teamed up with Vanuatu's Clement Mainguy and they lost to Van Phuong Nguyen and Duc Phu Pham, 1-6, 3-6.

Mainguy earlier handed Pacific Oceania a victory in Singles 2 after outlasting Hoang Hung Vo, 7-6 (5), 2-6, 6-3. In the Singles 1, Nguyen topped Tahiti's Jeremy Guines, 6-1, 6-3, for Vietnam's 2-1 triumph. Joining Vietnam and Pacific Oceania in Group B is Jordan.

There are four groups in the pre-qualifying and the Top 2 in each pool will move into the playoffs. Only the two remaining teams in the playoffs will then march into the final qualifying to compete against 12 early qualifiers from Asia, New Zealand, and Australia.

Group A has the Philippines, Bhutan, and Iraq; Group C has Singapore, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Tajikistan; and Group D has Lebanon, Kuwait, Sri Lanka, and Saudi Arabia.



# 2016-2017 SBA Tuesday & Thursday Billiards League

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Rolly Villanueva of the IT &E Voyagers together with his family during last week's SBA Billiards League awards ceremony at Pacific Island Club's Charley's Cabaret.



Marpac representatives led by sales manager James Lee, center.



Edwin Maratas of 9 Eleven Resto Bar receives a plaque of appreciation from Pacific Amusement's Cecile Vivero.



Oliver Gragas of the Warehouse Titans was the recipient of the Sportsmanship Award in the Tuesday League.



Tuesday League top performers Roman Rodriguez, left, and Gian Flores.



Budweiser Cup Tuesday League champions 9 Eleven Straight Black Ball.



Tuesday third place finishers Warehouse Destroyers.



Tuesday League runner-up 9 Eleven Docomo Hustlers.





**Kings GM on Cousins trade: I had a better deal two days ago**

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**At 61, 'late-bloomer' Snitker savors shot as Braves manager**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Lee lifts team to sweep vs PH

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee made a statement game against the Philippines, powering Pacific Oceania to a 3-0 victory in the opening of the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Pre-Qualifying Zone last Monday in New Delhi, India.

Lee demolished the Philippines' Gennifer Lysandra Pagente in the Singles 1 play, 6-0, 6-0, earning the lopsided win after only 35 minutes. The highest-ranked junior player in the Pacific then played in the lone doubles match, partnering with Sa-



moa's Eleanor Schuster in blanking Pagente and Carlyn Bless Guardie in the first set before completing the sweep with a 6-2 victory in the second. Lee and Schuster finished off their the Filipino foes in less than an

**See LEE on Page 26**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee, seen here in action during an ITF Juniors event on Saipan last year, demolished her foes from the Philippines during the opening of the 2017 Junior Fed Cup Asia Oceania Pre-Qualifying Zone last Monday in New Delhi, India.

## BSI Aces take SBL opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The BSI Aces withstood the Chalan Kanoa Bears' rally to pull off a 10-8 victory in the opening game in the 2017 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The BSI Aces built enough cushion in the early innings and leaned on John Tudela's solid pitching in the closing stages of the match to thwart the defending champions' comeback



bid and draw first blood in the meeting between last season's finalists.

A seven-run bottom of the second inning allowed the BSI Aces, who were swept by the Bears in their best-of-five title series, to open a promising 10-0 lead. Vince Torres provided the highlight in the BSI Aces' surge as he blasted a three-run double, making up for the strikeout he suffered in his first trip at the plate. Torres also reached home

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A BSI Aces batter waits for a pitch during the bottom of the fifth inning of their game against the Chalan Kanoa Bears in the opening of the 2017 Saipan Baseball League last Monday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

## Hopwood edges Tanapag in IFL finale

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Hopwood Junior High School clinched the boys division championship in the 2016-2017 NMIFA U14 Interscholastic Football League after nosing out Tanapag Middle School, 2-1, in last Monday's finale at the Hilitai's home turf.

Taka Borja scored the winning goal eight minutes before the one-hour title match wrapped up. Brian Lubao nailed the other goal for Hopwood in the 25th minute.

NMIFA PHOTO

Hopwood Junior High School players and their coach are joined in the photo by NMIFA technical director Michiteru Mita, standing left, and NMIFA vice president Vickie Izuka, standing right, during the presentation of trophies in the 2016-2017 NMIFA U14 Interscholastic Football League last Monday in Hopwood. The Hilitai won over Tanapag Middle School in the boys finals, 2-1.

Tanapag drew its lone goal from Razeff Al-tamirano in the 20th minute.

With the close victory in the finals, Hopwood fin-



ished the season undefeated.

The Connie Camacho-coached team swept the round-robin elimination, winning all its five games and scoring 32 goals,

while giving up only four. The eventual champions made the most goals in the season and also allowed the least.

**See HOPWOOD on Page 26**

